Recommended Biological Spill Control Material Inventory

This list includes items that are generally recommended for biohazardous spill planning and preparation, and can be modified according to lab-specific agents, materials and work practices. Pre-packaged kits are also available for purchase from many lab supply companies, such as through UW-Madison MDS web ordering system vendors.

Your laboratory or work area should have access to sufficient quantity of disinfectant, and other types of materials to control any biological spill that could potentially occur based on your research. Spill kits should be readily accessible and all personnel working in the lab should know their location. Spill kits should also be checked to make sure they are fully stocked. The general requirement is to protect yourself and others, while inactivating and removing spilled biohazardous material and subsequent cleanup of the spill.

Personal Protective Equipment
- Disposable lab coats/ Disposable gown with sleeves
- Disposable gloves (e.g., latex, vinyl, or nitrile), few pairs, multiple sizes
- Disposable shoe covers (at least 4 pairs)
- Splash-resistant goggles (at least 2 pairs)
- Face shield or respirator (if possibility of splashing or aerosolization exists)

Absorbent material
- Absorbent pads, socks, or booms
- High-absorbency paper towels (e.g., WypAlls)
- Non-polymer based absorbent (e.g., clay cat litter)

Germicidal Disinfectant
- A solution of 10% bleach (1:10 dilution of household bleach containing 5.25%-6.15% sodium hypochlorite) prepared at time of inactivation, alternatively small bleach packets appropriately sized to mix with water can be used.
- Over the counter Environmental Protection Agency registered "hospital disinfectant" chemical germicides that have a label claim for tuberculocidal activity. These are chemical germicides that are approved for use as hospital disinfectants and are tuberculocidal when used at recommended dilutions.
- Over the counter Environmental Protection Agency registered products labeled as being effective against human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
- Labs working with endospore-forming bacteria should utilize sporicidal disinfectants.

Clean-up Tools
- Brush with polypropylene bristles
- Dust pan/scoop (preferably polypropylene)
- Tweezers or forceps (for removing contaminated sharps)
- Biohazard waste bags
- Biohazard waste stickers
- Sealing tape or rubber bands for biohazard waste bags
- Disposable trash bags
- Floor sign or door sign - DANGER Biohazardous Spill - Keep Away (or Do Not Enter)
- Sharps Container (available for use)

Please note:
The Office of Biological Safety does not recommend polymer-based micro-encapsulation absorbents (e.g., BioSorb, Safetec EZ Clean Kit, etc.) for spill kits. If polymer-based micro-encapsulation absorbents will be used, inactivate biohazardous material using a germicidal disinfectant then apply product following appropriate disinfectant contact time.