

Beaumont

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Laboratory Fire Response and Evacuation Plan

Document Type: Procedure

I. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE:

- A. Fire prevention and control is necessary for a safe working environment and in the event of a fire, appropriate action is taken. If circumstances arise that cannot be immediately controlled and renders all or a portion of the laboratory or hospital building unsafe, or prevents the delivery of services, then evacuation of the area is necessary.
- B. This procedure is to provide a general procedure for employees to respond during a fire or other reason for evacuation. *Detailed instructions are listed in the Quick Reference Emergency Response Procedures flip chart.* Non-hospital sites should follow building fire and evacuation procedures.

II. PROCEDURE:

A. Fire Response

1. In the event of a fire in any laboratory area, follow the RACE directives as described below:
 - a. **R: Rescue** anyone from immediate danger.
 - b. **A: Alarm** - activate nearest pull box.
 - i. Call Security for specific site and indicate the lab area by name (i.e. chemistry, histology, office, draw station, etc.)
 - ii. Fire alarm boxes are located near each exit, stairway.
 - c. **C: Confine** smoke and fire by closing doors.
 - d. **E: Extinguish** the fire, if possible. Evacuate if not.

B. Fire Extinguishers

1. **Types:** Decals will indicate the class of fires the extinguishers are best suited to extinguish.
 - a. Class "A" fires of wood, paper and textiles are best extinguished by water pressure extinguishers.
 - b. DO NOT use water on flammable liquids, or electrical ("B" and "C" class) fires. These fires are best contained by Carbon Dioxide (CO2) or Dry Chemical fire extinguishers.
 - c. "ABC" multiple-purpose extinguishers are located in laboratories to manage Ordinary

Combustibles, Flammable Liquids or Electrical Equipment.

2. **Use:** Use **PASS** (Pull, Aim, Squeeze and Sweep) to extinguish a **SMALL** fire:
 - a. **P: Pull** the pin. Grasp the extinguisher by the handle and remove the pin (twist if necessary to break the plastic loop).
 - b. **A: Aim** the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the flames and move toward the fire up to 4 to 6 feet away.
 - c. **S: Squeeze** the trigger while holding the extinguisher upright.
 - d. **S: Sweep** the extinguisher from side to side, covering the are of the fire.
3. Laboratory staff will be trained on fire extinguisher use during New Employee Orientation. Refer to [Laboratory Education - New Hire Orientation](#).

C. Potential Fire Sources in Workplace

1. Be aware of ignition sources - open flames, heating elements and spark gaps (motors, light switches, friction and static).
2. Do not use Flammable liquids in presence of ignition sources, and conversely, keep ignition sources away from areas where flammable liquids are used and/or stored.
3. Flammable liquids give off vapors which may also burn or explode. Be sure flammable liquids are properly stored.
 - a. Store quantities of one gallon or over in SAFETY CANS.
 - b. Store BULK STORAGE in a FLAMMABLE safety cabinet.
 - c. Store Small quantities "in use" in well ventilated areas.
 - d. Do NOT store any flammable liquids in areas exposed to direct sunlight.
4. Hanging decorations are prohibited in areas with open flames, heating elements, or spark gaps.

D. Evacuation Plan: In the event that a fire cannot be immediately controlled by available fire extinguishers or hoses, **OR**, if noxious fumes are being generated by the fire, **OR** otherwise told to evacuate for another type of emergency:

1. Leave the firefighting effort to the local fire department.
2. Alert all staff to evacuate.
3. Evacuate the area of immediate danger being sure to close all doors after egress.
4. Stand prepared to direct fire fighters to the exact location of the fire.
5. Verify and account for all staff and visitors.
6. On the direction of the local fire department and announced via hospital operator, within the hospital evacuate in a horizontal direction to a point beyond the fire doors on the same floor, or to another wing or structure, or in a vertical direction to another floor as directed or as necessary. Use stairwells only. Do not use elevators.
7. If evacuated to the exterior, keep the roadways clear for the emergency responders.
8. No attempt should be made to collect personal items.
9. Assist any visitors, patients or personnel you may come in contact with who are disabled or obviously in need.

10. Listen for instructions from the public address system on the floors and instructions from fire fighters both inside and outside the building.

III. REFERENCES:

- A. [Fire Safety Management Plan](#)
- B. [FIRE \(CODE RED\) Beaumont, Royal Oak](#)
- C. [FIRE \(CODE RED\) Beaumont, Grosse Pointe](#)
- D. [FIRE \(CODE RED\) Beaumont, Farmington Hills](#)
- E. [FIRE \(CODE RED\) Beaumont, Troy](#)
- F. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 CFR 1910.155 Fire Protection

Attachments

No Attachments

Approval Signatures

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Applicability

Farmington Hills, Grosse Pointe, Royal Oak, Troy