

## SOP-9 PROCEDURES FOR PERSONNEL DECONTAMINATION

- The Radiation Protection Specialist (RPS) must be notified immediately of any incident involving personnel contamination regardless of the radionuclide or activity.
- Radiation surveys should be performed to locate contamination on the body. A background reading should be obtained prior to performing surveys.
- Form DHS-129 "Personnel Contamination Report," must be completed and submitted to the RPS. Records will be maintained at Laboratory Services (LS).
- All personnel who have undergone decontamination procedures are required to report to the Student Health Service for a checkup by a physician before returning to normal activities.
- Save all materials used, including water, for disposal as radioactive waste.

### Procedures for Skin Contamination:

1. Notify RPS immediately whenever any case of skin or body contamination occurs.
2. Record all required information on Form DHS-129 "Personnel Contamination Report."
  - Name of the Individual Requiring Decontamination
  - Date of the Incident
  - Location of the Incident
  - The time the contamination was discovered
  - Isotope(s) involved
  - Exposure and Decontamination Time
  - Surveyor Name and Instrument Used
  - Location(s) of Contamination
    - Including approximate size
    - Activity
  - Initial survey meter reading.
3. Remove and collect any contaminated clothing.
4. Wash skin using mild soap and warm water for 2-3 minutes. Do not scrub skin or use hot water. \*If an individual has visible breaks in the skin, do not perform decontamination – immediately escort the person to Student Health Services.
5. Measure and record the count rate after the initial attempt at decontamination. Survey and repeat decontamination until the count rate cannot be reduced any further.
6. If the skin becomes irritated, or the individual feels ill, discontinue decontamination, and immediately escort the person to Student Health Services.
7. When decontamination efforts are not immediately successful, often a substantial reduction in count rate is achieved during the next 24 hours with periodic washings with soap and water, combined with normal flaking of the skin.