

USU Student Safety Committee July 2017 Newsletter

Glove Use

Contact dermatitis is the skin's reaction to exposure to allergens or irritants which may result in skin rashes; surprisingly dermatitis is the most commonly reported occupational disease.

It is also important to note that some chemicals like dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), nitrobenzene, and methyl ethyl ketone (MEK), easily absorb through the skin and into the bloodstream which may cause harmful effects

When should you wear gloves?

Gloves must be worn when handling hazardous chemicals or materials, corrosives, very hot or very cold items, or materials that have an unknown hazard or toxicity.

When NOT to wear gloves?

Gloves should never be worn outside the laboratory, nor should clean or common use surfaces such as door handles, elevator buttons, telephones/cellphones or computer keyboards be touched while wearing a glove, even if the glove was just put on or you feel that it is clean.

Gloves *should* be removed before you leave the laboratory out of respect for others who may not know if you handled hazardous materials or contaminants.



Questions or Concerns? Please contact:
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Hot Topic: Self-Policing Safety

It takes a safe person to look for oneself, it takes a safer person to look out for others. Watching out for others can be nerve racking at times, especially if the person in question is your superior, but remember safety in the workplace is everyone's responsibility. You may upset them at the present moment, but they will be grateful when your courage helps them prevent injury/lose of job/or death is the future... And If you have trouble talking to them one-on-one, you can get a group of coworkers to help and/or you PI.

Topic inspired by Dr. Miller

Acknowledgements

None. If you have anyone you would like to acknowledge for exceptional safety habits please email:
katie.a.simpson@aggiemail.usu.edu.

Topic for August 2017

General safety considerations for microwave reactions.

Inspired by a near-miss report.

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