

Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center	
General Clinical Research Center	Policy No.: 120 Original Date: Jan. 1987
Radiation Safety, Surveys, and Swipe Tests	Previous Date: July, 1988 Revised Date: April, 1991

Purpose: To outline the responsibilities, accountability, and procedure for radiation safety on the GCRC.

Procedure:

1. Licensing and accountability for radiation safety is conducted through Johns Hopkins University, School of Medicine. The Johns Hopkins University Radiation Manual is reference manual for the GCRC. The Johns Hopkins University Radiation Safety Officer is the radiation safety officer for the GCRC.
2. The Director of the GCRC Core Laboratory is responsible for the implementation, communication, and evaluation of Radiation Safety practices and surveys as they relate to the GCRC. All reports and logs required by University, government and regulatory agencies are maintained and filed by the Core Laboratory staff.
3. Acquisition, handling, and disposal of radioactive materials are conducted by the Core Laboratory staff.
4. Radiation Swipe Tests are conducted by the Core Laboratory Technicians at the immediate conclusion of any procedure using radioactive materials and/or when there is reported contamination. This procedure includes:
 - a. Seven swipe tests performed in the area where the radioactive agent was used.
 - b. Patient related equipment is swipe tested including areas of potential contamination, such as pumps, overbed stands, "hot boxes," wastebaskets, counter tops, mattresses, and bed rails.
 - c. Laboratory equipment is swipe tested including areas of potential contamination, such as counter tops, centrifuge, glucose analyzer, and the floor around the area where radioactive waste is placed for disposal.
 - d. All equipment and areas swiped are identified by a number and map location. A corresponding scintillation vial is numbered for the swipe test.
 - e. Swipes are moistened with tap water and rubbed over the surface being surveyed. They are then placed in the numbered vial.
 - f. Gloves must be worn throughout the procedure. A swipe test is submitted for the gloved "swipe hand."
 - g. The area may receive routine cleaning after the results have been determined to be within normal limits. If the findings are above the normal background determinates, then the procedure for area decontamination is followed and documented as defined in the Johns

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Hopkins University Radiation Manual.

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