
REFERENCE: Occupational Health & Safety Act, Designated Substance – Mercury Regulation 844

The purpose of this policy is to protect County employees from mercury exposure by:

- ◆ Ensuring that employees who use instruments containing mercury are aware of the proper use and handling of them.
- ◆ That if a spill occurs, it is cleaned up safely and the material properly stored.

Mercury is present in some thermostats, thermometers and sphygmomanometers (Blood Pressure apparatus).

SPILL PROCEDURE:

1. Collect all visible drops of mercury with a disposable syringe, wearing disposable gloves.
2. Wash surfaces with the sodium thiosulphate solution.
3. Dispose of all utensils into mercury spill container and cap tightly.

4. The plastic container of mercury is transferred to the Engineering Department/toxic storage area.
5. Wash hands.
6. Fill out mercury spill form. Copies to the Human Resources Co-ordinator, Department Head or designate.

Contact with Person

If the contact is on the skin, wash area thoroughly with soap and water.

If there is eye contact, flush eyes with running water for fifteen (15) minutes.

In all cases of contact, follow the Incident and Accident Policy.