

Manual:	Emergency Preparedness	Reference No.:	009010.00
Section:	Code Brown – Internal Chemical Spill		
Subject:	<b>Chemical Spill</b>		

**POLICY:**

It is the policy of APANS Health Services a procedure is in effect in the event of a chemical spill that could interfere with the normal services of the Home.

**PROCEDURE:**

Code Brown will be the term used to alert staff to an accidental release of a hazardous or potentially hazardous material. Cleanup will utilize staff with the knowledge and capability to perform the task or contact an external team (Fire Department). There may be the potential for an evacuation of a specific area.

Prior to handling any spill, refer to MSDS/GHS sheets for product information and procedures.

**Manageable (small) Spill**

**Definition:** Spills that can be handled by the Home given the resources on hand and training provided.

All homes outfitted with spill kits on site for those deemed manageable. Once spill kit is used discarding all items after-Do not wash.

**Procedure:**

1. Safely evacuate persons from the affected area
2. Check MSDS/GHS sheets for information on product
3. Utilize MSDS sheets for proper procedures
4. Initiate appropriate spill procedure
5. Apply necessary PPE (N95 mask)
6. Using required PPE, contain the spill (i.e. cover with absorbent material, towel etc.)
7. Safely evacuate persons from affected areas
8. Prevent the spread of fumes by closing and sealing doors so no one enters (if possible)
9. Maintain safe area around the perimeter
10. Leave all electrical equipment in the area; do not turn on or off
11. Record the estimated amount or size of spill, time; document substance
12. Locate any information regarding the chemical, if possible, to determine if other steps may be required depending on the chemical involved
13. Contact a member of the APANS Health Services leadership team

**Unmanageable Spill**

**Definition:** Spills that result in release of a hazardous material that the Home is unable to handle on their own with equipment, materials and training provided.

**Procedure:**

1. Call Code Brown and the location of the spill
2. Call 911 to contact the Fire Department
3. Safely evacuate persons from affected areas
4. Apply necessary PPE (N95 mask)
5. Prevent spread by closing doors, if possible
6. If it is a gas that is airborne, seal all doors in the affected area
7. Shut off all ventilation systems/air make-up systems

Manual:	Emergency Preparedness	Reference No.:	<b>009010.00</b>
Section:	Code Brown – Internal Chemical Spill		
Subject:	<b>Chemical Spill</b>		

8. Prohibit use of food and water until it has been tested
9. Other steps may be required depending upon the chemical involved
10. Record the estimated amount or size of spill, time; document substance
11. Contact the Executive Director, if unavailable or outside of business hours, contact the Manager On-Call
12. Contact a member of the APANS Health Services leadership team

### **Reactions**

Due to some possible reactions:

- Prohibit use of food and water until it has been tested
- Locate oxygen and oxygen masks for those affected by a gas, if feasible

### **Potential for Explosion**

If there is a potential for explosion:

- NO SMOKING
- Shut off all open flames in kitchen, laundry, boiler room, etc.

If it is the intent to remain in the building, certain preventative actions can be taken depending upon the properties of the chemical involved.

If evacuation is required, follow established evacuation procedures in **CODE GREEN** – Evacuation (Emergency Preparedness Manual)

### **Communication**

It may be necessary to contact:

- APANS Health Services
- Ministry of the Environment: Spills Action Centre - 1 800 268 6060 (see link)
- Public Health Unit and report the problem
- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care