Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Protocol

Spill Prevention:

**Use of Secondary Containers:** When transporting chemicals outside of designated lab spaces, use secondary containers to prevent accidental spills.

**Regular Inspection of Storage:** Throw out damaged old bottles or put them into new containers. This minimizes the probability of breaking and leaking into cabinets/fridges.

**Minimize Hazardous Material Quantities:** Whenever possible, purchase and store smaller quantities of hazardous materials. Reducing the volume of chemicals on hand minimizes the risk associated with a spill.

**Availability of Spill Kits:** Know where the spill kits are in your lab and keep them replenished after use. These kits should contain the necessary materials to promptly respond to and manage chemical spills.

In Case of Emergency:

**Immediate Area Clearance:** If a chemical spill occurs, the first step is to immediately clear the area. Ensure the safety of all individuals by moving them away from the spill.

**Emergency Services Contact:**

**Fuming or Extremely Hazardous Materials:** If the spilled material is fuming or considered extremely hazardous, call 911 immediately to request professional assistance.

**Otherwise:** Contact EH&S (Environmental Health & Safety) for guidance on handling less critical spills. Contact EHS at (949) 824-6200

**Information to Provide EH&S:**

When reporting a chemical spill, be prepared to provide the following information to responders:

1. **Spill Size:** Describe the size of the spill, which can include the size of the container and the extent of the spill area.

2. **State of the Material:** Indicate whether the spilled material is in a solid, liquid, or gas form.

3. **Hazard Level:** Assess and communicate how immediately hazardous the material is, including its potential risks to human health and the environment.

4. **Spill Condition:** Specify whether the spill is a recent incident (e.g., a bottle just broke) or an older discovery (e.g., a bottle that has been broken for a while but was just found).

**Recent spill vs old, recently discovered spill?**