



# DON'T CRY OVER SPILLS



Spills are common workplace hazards that can lead to slips, trips and falls. Champions can help their teammates — and patients — avoid these injuries by rounding for safety. This month walk through your department and engage your co-workers in a conversation about the safe storage, handling and clean-up of chemicals and other liquids.

## Do you know what to do in case of a spill?

### FOR CHEMICAL SPILLS:

- » **Isolate the area.** Evacuate everyone from the area surrounding the spill. Secure the area and establish a perimeter to prevent people from walking through the spill.
- » **Stop the source of the spill.** If appropriate, obtain a spill kit. Apply a neutralizer within 10 minutes to reduce vapors from harmful chemicals.
- » **Don protective personal equipment (PPE).** When hazardous spills occur, it may be necessary to wear gloves, a gown, goggle and/or respiratory protection. Consult with your manager or local safety professional regarding specific PPE requirements for the chemicals you work with.
- » **Contact Environmental Services** to clean the area after the chemical is removed.
- » **Contain and dispose** of all materials according to your local/regional policy.

### FOR NON-CHEMICAL SPILLS:

- » **Keep people away from the liquid** and use towels or other absorbent materials to clean up the spill.
- » **Place 'wet floor' signs** to alert people to stay away from the area until dry.

## Does your department have a spill kit?

Departments that use chemicals should have spill kits. A spill kit for hazardous chemicals should include personal protective equipment, absorbent materials, cleaners, and neutralizers. Make sure that spill kits are easily accessible. Check the kits on an annual basis and restock them if they are depleted.



## TIPS YOU CAN USE

Visit [http://kpnet.kp.org/ehs/ehs\\_community/index.htm](http://kpnet.kp.org/ehs/ehs_community/index.htm) for a list of Environmental Health and Safety professionals in every region. Use this flier to jot down your local safety contact information. Then post the information in your department or email it to your co-workers.

### NEAREST HEALTH AND SAFETY PROFESSIONAL:

NAME

PHONE

NAME

PHONE