

GENERAL SAFETY RULES IN LABORATORY

The basic purpose of laboratory safety is to protect students, researchers, technicians and teachers from the many hazards encountered during the use of various materials and equipment's, so safety in the laboratory must be of vital concern to all those engaged in experimental work.

It is therefore the responsibility of everyone to adhere strictly to the basic safety precautions provided and to avoid any acts of carelessness that can endanger his life and that of others around him. It is equally important to always abide by all the instructions for conducting the experimental work during the laboratory sessions. A set of information is presented here to safeguard you while in the laboratory.

- **No smoking** is allowed in the laboratory, No food or beverages are allowed in the laboratory.
- **Avoid long** hair and long sleeved loose clothes and wear lab coat while conducting experiments to minimize the risk of clothing getting caught in the machines
- **Use appropriate personal** protective equipment at all time, like Gloves,Safety glasses, Skin Protection, Hearing Protection, and Foot Protection (Don't wear open sandals)
- **No running**, playing, bantering, and kidding in the laboratory.
- **Know locations** of first aid and all emergency equipment's, such as fire Alarm, water hoses, fire extinguishers, fire blankets, eyewash stations, and safety showers. Know how to find and use them.
- **Use laboratory equipment** for its designed purpose.
- **Always follow instructions** and use only machines and equipment that you are authorized and qualified to operate. If you have any question, consult with your supervisor.
- **Know and follow safety rules** for specific experiments or tasks.
- **Know potential hazards** in your work and ways of working safely to prevent such hazards.
- **Working alone should be avoided**. Someone should always be within call when a laboratory procedure is being performed.
- **Avoid mouth contact** with any laboratory equipment's including pipett Use safety filler to fill pipettes.
- **Avoid exposure** to gases, vapors, and particulates by using a properly functioning laboratory fume hood.
- **Use ground fault** circuit interrupters where there is a risk of anoperator coming in contact with water and electrical equipment simultaneously.
- **Follow electrical safety rules** and make sure your hands are dry before using electrical equipment, grounding portable electrical too Make sure electrical wires are connected properly without short circuit before operating. Wear protective clothing, well-insulated groves and boots, if required.
- **Only trained, qualified personnel** may repair or modify electrical or any equipment.
- Properly support glass wares using stand, clamps, etc.
- Use proper rings to place round bottom flasks.
- Reduce fire hazard.
- Use shower for fire victims.

- While fire on clothing, do not run or fan flames.
- Smother flames by wrapping in fire blankets.
- Spills of flammable solvents can be a source of fire.
- **Upon hearing fire alarm**, you should evacuate the area and follow emergency procedure.
- **Report all injuries including** minor scratches, cuts, and burns for First Aid treatment Corrective actions should be taken to prevent future injuries.
- **Report any damage to equipment** or instrument and broken glassware to the laboratory instructor as soon as such damage occurs.
- **Wash hands upon completion** of laboratory procedures and remove all protective equipment including gloves and lab coats.

