Using Radioactive Material?

1. **Check your meter:** Visually inspect the meter for damage. Examine the calibration sticker - is it current? Perform a battery check.

2. **Operations check:** Always use the supplied check source (thorium lantern mantle) to ensure that the meter properly responds to radiation. Periodically record and initial the results on the red envelope or on a separate log sheet. **Do not use the instrument if it does not respond as expected.**

3. **Perform the experiment:** Work only in designated radiation use areas. Wear appropriate PPE (safety glasses, lab coat, etc.). Use absorbent paper. Minimize your exposure using ALARA. Avoid distractions.

4. **Survey (area and self):** Survey yourself and your work area for contamination. Also check extraneous items (phones, keyboards, the floor, light switches, etc.). Go “low and slow.” Clean up any contamination you find or contact us for help. If you used tritium or similar radionuclides, also take smears for liquid scintillation counting.

5. **Document:** Record all radioactive material used on the 13C disposition form. Take credit for your survey by recording it on a log sheet.

6. **Secure material:** Be sure to secure all radioactive material in a labeled and locked refrigerator, freezer, or storage container.

**Contact Us**
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