

# LAB

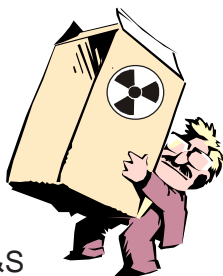
# NOTES

Safety Newsletter for Lab Workers

UCSD Environment, Health & Safety Office

## How to Transfer Radioactive Materials

All transfers and shipments of radioactive materials between UCSD principal investigators or from UCSD to other destinations, domestic or foreign, must pass through the EH&S Services Lab (formerly the Isotope Lab).



**Intracampus** transfer procedures are different from **off-campus** procedures.

### Intracampus transfers

**Intracampus transfers** include isotopes transferred between:

- Different UCSD principal investigators
- Campus labs and the Medical Center
- Campus labs located in different buildings

Use intracampus transfer procedures even if inventory ownership does not change when isotopes are moved to a different location **via motorized vehicle**. Regulatory restrictions require such movement of radioactive materials be made through the EH&S Services Lab.

A transfer document is not required when you share isotopes in common-use areas if:

- All Radioisotope Use Authorizations (RUAs) involved are authorized for those particular isotopes
- Inventory records are maintained

continued on back ... see Transfer of Radioactive Materials



March 29th

Register at <http://sharecase2000.ucsd.edu>

Sharecase 2006 offers a broad array of **Research topics** this year. Learn how to support research at UCSD with the latest technology demonstrated at Sharecase. **Visit the EH&S booth in the exhibit hall.**

## Ultraviolet (UV) Light Hazards

University employees are occasionally treated for photokeratitis (eye damage) or skin burns resulting from overexposure to UV light when working without proper shielding and protective equipment.

**UV exposure is not immediately felt**, so a person may not realize damage is being done until symptoms develop several hours after the overexposure occurred.

### Symptoms of overexposure to the eyes include:

- Burning and painful sensation in the eye
- The sensation of a foreign object in the eye, sometimes described as sand in the eye
- Tearing and sensitivity to light

### Take these steps to effectively reduce the hazards and work safely with UV light:

- Wear goggles and a face shield rated for protection against UV light. Protect your arms and hands by wearing a long-sleeve lab coat and gloves.
- Limit exposure time. UV light sources have the potential of causing eye injury with only short exposure periods.
- Use shielding manufactured for protection against UV light; standard acrylic plastic shielding is ineffective.



**Post conspicuous warning signs or labels** near or on the housing of UV sources. Areas or sources where exposure to UV light is a potential hazard include (but are not limited to):

- Biological laboratories where gels are visualized
- Areas in which germicidal UV lights are used, including biological safety cabinets
- Science laboratories where Mineralights are used to cause fluorescence
- Mercury vapor lamps with broken or missing envelopes

**Questions?** Contact an EH&S Research Safety Program specialist: <http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/rap>.

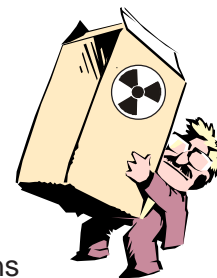
## Transfer of Radioactive Materials

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### Off-campus transfers

Off-campus transfers include isotope shipments from UCSD to:

- Foreign locations
- Off-campus domestic destinations



Allow for sufficient processing time by initiating off-campus transfer procedures with EH&S well in advance. For domestic shipments, submit information at least one week prior to the anticipated shipping date. Allow two weeks for foreign shipments.

Before any off-campus shipment can commence, UCSD's EH&S Office must obtain the following from the receiving institution's Radiation Safety Officer:

- Approval for transfer
- A copy of the receiving institution's radioactive materials license

A detailed, orchestrated procedure to meet International Air Transportation Association (IATA) and/or Department of Transportation (DOT) specifications for packaging and labeling of hazardous goods for shipment then precedes each off-campus transfer.

If the destination is foreign, customs inspection, national holidays, time zones, possible weekend arrival, and political situations that could stymie timely delivery must all be considered, especially for temperature-sensitive shipments.

Read "How to Transfer Radioactive Materials" on Blink (listed on the Radiation Safety Menu at <http://blink.ucsd.edu/menu/rad>) for complete instructions and forms for off-campus and intracampus transfers.

**Questions?** Contact EH&S Radiation Safety Division, (858) 534-6138 or [ehsrad@ucsd.edu](mailto:ehsrad@ucsd.edu).

**For SIO shipments,** contact Sandy O'Brien, (858) 534-6103 or [sobrien@ucsd.edu](mailto:sobrien@ucsd.edu).

## West Nile Virus Fact Sheet for Laboratory and Field Workers

Laboratory and field workers who potentially may be exposed to West Nile Virus should read "Recommendations for Protecting Laboratory, Field, and Clinical Workers From West Nile Virus Exposure." This Fact Sheet from the National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) is online at [http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/westnile/wnvfacts\\_lab.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/westnile/wnvfacts_lab.html).



## Go to Enrollment Central for Safety Training

Register for safety training on Enrollment Central at <http://enrollmentcentral.ucsd.edu>. Browse "EH&S-Safety" under Course Topics for schedules. **Find research safety training at:**

- **General Lab Safety & Chemical Safety Training**  
<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/labchemtrain>
- **Radiation Safety Training**  
<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/radtrain>
- **Biosafety Training**  
<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/biotrain>
- **Hazardous Waste Training**  
<http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/hazwastrain>

## Dangerous Goods Training Seminar

March 16, 2006  
8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Burnham Institute for Medical Research



**Transporting Class 6.2 infectious substances and diagnostic shipments** will be the topic of a one-day Dangerous Goods Training seminar on March 16. BioNet is sponsoring the class in conjunction with the Annual BioNet/BSAF Spring Symposium.

**Cost:** \$75 for members  
\$100 nonmembers

BioNet or BSAF members include personnel from a facility where a BioNet or BSAF member is employed.

Registration information and fee must be received no later than March 13.

**Contact** Mike Grogan to register:  
[mgrogan@skcc.org](mailto:mgrogan@skcc.org)  
Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center  
10835 Altman Row  
San Diego, CA 92121