



General Laboratory Safety Rules

A standard list of basic laboratory safety rules is given below, and must be followed in every laboratory. These basic rules provide behavior, hygiene, and safety information to avoid accidents in the laboratory. Laboratory specific safety rules may be required for specific processes, equipment, and materials, which should be addressed by laboratory users.

Basic Safety Rules

For laboratory conduct should be observed whenever working in a laboratory. Many of the most common safety rules are listed below.

- **Emergency Equipment Location:**

- Identify the locations of:

• Emergency telephone	• Spill kit
• Fire alarm panel	• Fire extinguishers
• First aid kit	• Eyewash station
• Emergency shower	

- **Emergency Exits:**

- Know the emergency exits in the laboratory.

- **Behavior:**

- No horseplay will be tolerated.
- Avoid distracting or startling any person working in the laboratory.

- **Chemical Handling:**

- Avoid skin and eye contact with all chemicals.
- Assume that all chemicals of unknown toxicity are highly toxic.
- Minimize all chemical exposures.
- Never leave containers of chemicals open.
- Do not taste or intentionally sniff chemicals.
- All containers must have appropriate labels. Unlabeled chemicals should never be used.
- Do not pour chemicals down drains. Use proper chemical waste disposal methods.
- Do not utilize fume hoods for evaporations and disposal of volatile solvents.



- **Food and Drink:**
 - Never consume or store food or beverages or apply cosmetics in the laboratory.
 - Smoking is only allowed outside buildings in designated areas.
- **Personal Safety:**
 - Wash exposed areas of the skin prior to leaving the laboratory.
 - Loose hair can be hazardous; keep it tied back.
 - Eye protection must be worn in any area where chemicals are used or stored. Safety glasses with integral side protection are required. Contact lenses are not suitable; prescription glasses must be covered with over-glasses.
 - Always wear long pants and proper closed-toed shoes (Thobe and Ghutra are not allowed). Shorts, skirts, and sandals are not permitted.
 - Laboratory coats must be worn at all times inside the laboratory, kept fastened, and washed separately at regular intervals.
 - Laboratory coats should not be stored in offices or break rooms to prevent contamination spread.
 - Determine the potential hazards and appropriate safety precautions before beginning any work.
 - Unknown chemicals produced in the laboratory should be considered hazardous.
 - No jewelry is allowed in the laboratory as it can pose multiple safety hazards.
- **Special Precautions:**
 - Inform the laboratory instructor if you have chronic illnesses, such as epilepsy.
 - Do not use mouth suction for pipetting.
 - Never work with radioactive sources without informing the CPG safety team to assign a dosimeter for you.
 - Avoid working alone in the laboratory.
 - Do not carry out a new or unfamiliar procedure until fully trained and aware of necessary precautions.
 - Never work with a chemical without understanding its Safety Data Sheet (SDS).
- **Emergency Telephone Numbers:**
 - Ensure emergency telephone numbers are readily available and easily accessible.