



Emergency Preparedness in the New Work Environment

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MEDICAL COLLEGES PROMOTE SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Faculty, staff and students participate in general safety orientations entering medical colleges and institutes of higher education. Annual exercises or safety fairs refresh preparedness and safety protocols and promote shared responsibility to recognize risks.



IN-PERSON SAFETY INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING

Very basic information is provided to promote everyone's responsibility to avoid un-safe practices and to recognize potential hazards in their workplace.



2020 Emergency Preparedness Disaster Exercises

- Depending on the current Risk Assessment at your organization, one or more of these scenarios drive annual disaster exercises.
- These drills are critiqued and scored for their potential to cause serious injury and disruption to university operations.

- **Biological Contamination**
- **Power Outages**
- **Civil Unrest**
- **Weather Emergencies**
- **Fire**
- **Earthquake**
- **Chemical Spill**
- **Bomb threats or explosives**
- **Active Shooters**
- **Water Outages**
- **Power Outages**

Safety is the First Priority

- **As safety guidelines during the current pandemic reduced the capacity of personnel at medical colleges, the time-tested benefit of workspace neighbors alerting one another is similarly reduced.**
- **Response protocols in most emergencies require immediate notification to building occupants and persons who expect to access the buildings. This is usually accomplished through;**
 - **Detection systems transmitting electronically to monitoring stations.**
 - **Emergency announcements piped through building Public Address systems**
 - **Digital communications to networks, social media, computers, phones.**
 - **Person to person communication when proximity permits**

***Changes in physical spacing
and building capacities
require re-thinking safety
responsibilities.***

**Colleges are preparing for the gradual
reopening of campuses**

Preparedness in the New Work Environment

- The COVID pandemic has resulted in increased loneliness, stress, anxiety, and depression, among many Americans, including college students.*

College Mental Health Support Services will promote resources through multiple platforms.

- Essential employees, contractors and deliveries must observe CDC guidelines.

Security personnel engage anyone on campus to maintain distancing protocols.

- The built environment maintains HVAC, water systems and enhanced cleaning regimens.

Facilities Maintenance departments monitor building systems for peak performance.

- *Content created by Nicole Hadler, University of Michigan Medical School, Class of 2021

Preparedness in the New Work Environment

- ***Is there COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment readily available for distribution to essential personnel?***
- ***Does the Community Relations department acknowledge and support the neighboring communities in their testing or vaccination efforts?***
- ***Is there an effective Access Control process to restrict building occupancy?***
- ***Is there a smooth and consistent method for the delivery of supplies for research labs?***
- ***Are there walk thru inspections to support safety behavior in labs?***

Emergency Preparedness and Safety Protocols Can Be Flexible



PROTECT YOURSELF DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

DROP	COVER	HOLD ON
		
Drop where you are, onto your hands and knees	If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (away from windows)	Under shelter: hold on to it with one hand; be ready to move with your shelter if it shifts No shelter: hold on to your head and neck with both arms and hands.

In a lecture hall, stadium or theater:
Drop to the ground in front of your seat, Cover your head with your arms, and Hold On to your neck with both hands until the shaking stops.

In bed:
Stay there and cover your head and neck with a pillow, keeping your arms as close to your head as possible.

Outdoors:
Move to a clear area if you can safely do so; avoid power lines, trees, signs, buildings, vehicles, and other hazards. Then Drop, Cover, and Hold On.

Laboratory:
Move to the corridor and take cover next to an interior wall. If the corridor is far away, but the lab has an adjoining office or other room not containing hazardous materials (e.g. a microscope room) and close by, then drop, cover, and hold in the space.

Office of Fire Safety and Emergency Planning



Resources for HVAC Links to ASHRAE Updates;

<https://www.ashrae.org/file%20library/technical%20resources/covid-19/ashrae-etf-laboratory-one-page-guidance.pdf>

<https://www.ashrae.org/file%20library/technical%20resources/covid-19/guidance-for-re-opening-buildings.pdf>

<https://www.ashrae.org/file%20library/technical%20resources/covid-19/guidance-for-the-re-opening-of-schools.pdf>