



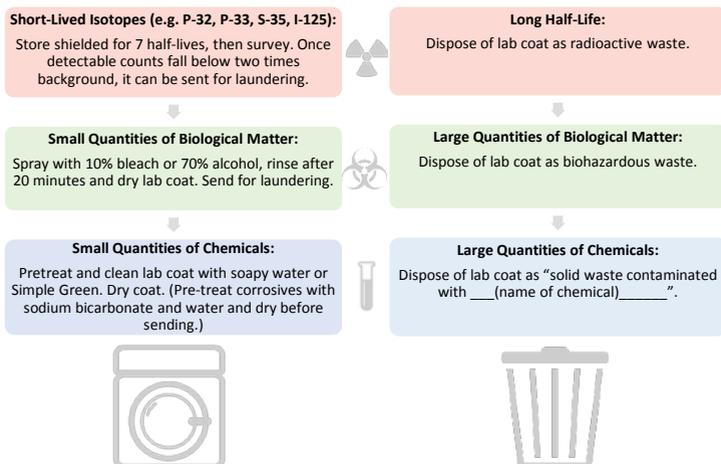
Eliminate Microtome Cuts

A Microtome, also referred to as a Histome or Cryostat, is a device that cuts extremely thin sections of tissue for microscopic study. They present a significant risk during operation or cleaning due to very sharp blades.

Microtome injuries do occur on campus, but are completely preventable. Follow your Hazard Control Plan (HCP) and check out these helpful [microtome injury prevention tips](#).

Lab Coat: Decontaminate or Dispose

Do you know the [guidelines](#) to determine the proper action before laundering your lab coat?



Lab Lessons Learned

The UC Center for Laboratory Safety (Center) helps to improve the practice of laboratory safety through the performance of scientific research and implementation of best safety practices in the laboratory. Check out their [Lessons Learned](#) pages to protect yourself and learn from past lab incidents.



ChemWatch for Safety Data Sheets

[ChemWatch](#) provides timely and ready access to Safety Data Sheets (SDSs). To ensure that research staff and students at UC San Diego have the critical support they need when working with hazardous materials, Environment, Health and Safety has transitioned to a new SDS online provider called ChemWatch GoldFFX. Chemwatch has millions of SDSs available, serves multiple languages and can be accessed within seconds from UC San Diego computers. Get to know your new SDS provider today. If you are a student and are using an off campus computer you should be provided a login with your course curricula. Contact the UC San Diego [Chemical Hygiene Officer](#) if you have any difficulties accessing ChemWatch. Learn more about all campus SDS resources [here](#).

Using Engineering Controls

Engineering controls reduce or eliminate exposure to chemical or physical hazards through the use of equipment or devices. Engineering controls function with minimum user input and do not rely on the skill or vigilance of individuals. If a hazard cannot be eliminated or a safer substitute cannot be found, the next best approach is to use engineering controls to keep the hazard from a laboratory worker. Learn more about campus engineering controls:

[Building Ventilation](#), [Fume Hoods](#), [Biological Safety Cabinets](#), [Radiation Shielding](#), [Blast Shields](#), [Blood/Body Fluid Shielding](#), [Glove Boxes](#), [Gas Cabinets](#), [Laminar Flow Bench](#), [Rotovaps](#), [Downdraft Tables](#) and [Vacuum Line Protection](#).

Glass Disposable Boxes

State and local laws regulate the [disposal of sharps](#) to protect waste handlers from both physical and contamination hazards. When using glass disposable boxes, remember the following:



- You may dispose of non-contaminated containers in these boxes to lighten the weight — Custodial staff will not collect boxes of broken glass weighing more than 50 pounds.
- Never place syringes or razor blades, or other hazardous materials inside these boxes.

Learn more about non-contaminated sharps on [Blink](#).