

HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER HANDBOOK OF OPERATING PROCEDURES

Chapter 8	Health and Safety	Effective:	June 2000
Section 8.5	Environmental Health and Safety Office	Revised:	September 2005
Policy 8.5.2	Radiation Safety	Responsibility:	Vice President for Research

RADIATION SAFETY

Overview

The Health Science Center has been issued a broad-scope radioactive material use license by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Radiation Control Program permitting the Radiation Safety Committee to issue and withdraw authorizations for using radiation sources at the Health Science Center. Before a Principal Investigator may acquire any quantity of radioactive material or any radiation-producing device, whether by purchase, loan, or gift, the Radiation Safety Committee must approve an application for its use.

Use of Radioactive Materials

An authorized user is a person who, by virtue of position, training and experience, is permitted by the Radiation Safety Committee to hold a “sub-license” of the Health Science Center broad-scope license. This authorization permits the purchase and use of radioactive materials under the supervision of the authorized user, provided that the materials are used within the submitted protocol guidelines and *Radiation Safety Handbook*.

The Radiation Safety Committee or the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) may suspend or withdraw authorization to possess and use radioactive material for failure to observe and comply with any condition of the authorization or the *Radiation Safety Handbook*.

The RSO is responsible for investigating incidents and monitoring and implementing policies relating to radiation safety. The RSO is the Radiation Safety Committee’s representative regarding radiation protection at the Health Science Center. Any changes relating to an authorized user’s protocol must be related to the Radiation Safety Division in writing. These amendments may include possession limits, laboratory location, personnel changes, and the termination of work.

Policies and Procedures

The *Radiation Safety Handbook* is the Health Science Center’s policy regarding radiation safety. The *Handbook* is located at <http://research.uthscsa.edu/safety/2006RadiationHandbook.pdf>.
