

Near-Miss/Incident Learning Experience Report

Our goal is to learn from each other to help create a safe, productive research environment for everyone so we can all do world-class research and go home with our eyes, skin, and lungs intact.

Please provide information about the incident so we can all learn from it. This is not punitive – do not include names or room numbers. When completed, e-mail this form to jasbury@psu.edu. The person sending the report does not need to be the person involved in the incident. The completed form will be posted on the departmental Angel Safety page. No personal information will be included.

1) Describe what happened.

I was building a box to contain an instrument and that will allow us to remove water from the area. I glued some latches on the top of the box to help provide a seal so that the air will mostly remain in the box. One of the latches was not in the correct location, so I tried to pry it off with a razor blade. The razor blade slipped and hit my thumb that was holding the lid down.

2) Describe the root cause that led to the near-miss/incident.

The root cause that led to the incident was my hand being used to hold down the box being in the same direction as I was applying force with the razor blade.

3) Include pictures of the scene that would help communicate what happened and what were the root causes.



A picture of the cut after it was treated in the Emergency Room. (Even the toy story characters are interested in it.)

4) Describe what actions might have prevented this near-miss/incident for future reference.

Applying the force in the opposite direction could have prevented this. Also if that could not have been avoided, cut resistant gloves could have been worn so that if the blade did slip, the gloves would provide an extra layer of protection.

Thank-you for helping us make our laboratories a safer and more productive research environment. Please send this completed form to jasbury@psu.edu. The person sending the report does not need to be the person involved in the incident. The completed form will be posted on the Angel Safety page. Remember, keep it anonymous. No personal information will be included with your report.