

Significant Incident Alert

Type of Incident

Medical Treatment Injury (MTI)

Key Issues

- The glassware was slipping from the IP's hands while washing and upon his split second reflex, the glassware was firmly gripped which shattered the glassware resulting in an injury.
- Overtime, the conical flask (glassware) was dried in the oven and it affected its integrity and became brittle. When the force was applied, it broke.

INX Incident No:

67341

Date & Time

09th August, 2021. 1145hrs

Location

Processing BU | Processing Technical Services

Injury

Hand and Finger Injury

Consequence

Actual – Level 2, Medical Treatment Injury

Potential – Level 3, Partial impact on body function



DESCRIPTION

At approximately 1145hrs, a Chem. Lab employee lacerated his left-hand thumb by a broken glass while he was washing a 250ml conical flask (glassware) used for titration. In the middle of washing the conical flask (glassware), it slipped off from the IP's hand and in the process of avoiding the conical flask to fall, the IP firmly gripped the top of the flask to regain control. This resulted in the top part of the conical flask to break and the broken piece of glassware slit the IP's left-hand thumb.

LESSONS

- Individuals to develop spatial awareness and the ability to identify hidden hazards and risks while performing routine day to day tasks.
- Ensure to review SWP's for routine tasks and roll out to the team.

ACTIONS

- All new glassware to be labelled with date replaced and glassware to be replaced quarterly
- Review SWP and develop Techniques for Working Safely in the Laboratory.

Mathew Gare

A/Manager – Processing Technical Services

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