Procedure Statement

The purpose of this Procedure is to ensure that Texas A&M University-San Antonio (A&M-San Antonio) will monitor harmful exposures in a consistent, analytical manner. The monitoring program helps to define the nature and extent of the risk and establishes definitive methods to periodically evaluate the hazard to ensure that proper safeguards are in place to protect the health of all persons. Harmful exposures are defined as, “those that exceed recognized exposure limits and other exposures deemed harmful.”

Reason for Procedure

A&M-San Antonio is a relatively small university and currently does not have any programs or activities that are considered to be harmful exposure situations. As the university grows over time and new programs and activities that bring the risk of harmful exposures are introduced, a monitoring and evaluating system will be developed as necessary to further protect all employees, students and visitors.

Official Procedure

1. HARMFUL EXPOSURES

   1.1 Radiation Safety

      1.1.1 A&M-San Antonio does not have any type of radiation activities, including high-powered lasers on campus at this time. There are new state regulations governing the use of lasers that require permits before their use.

   1.2 Hazardous Chemicals

      1.2.1 A&M-San Antonio currently has a limited amount of hazardous chemicals, with a low risk of exposure category, which would include all chemicals that should be reported in the Texas Tier Two report.

      1.2.2 The only chemicals presently at A&M-San Antonio are chemicals used in housekeeping, insecticides and fungicides for grounds control, and purchased chemicals for offered biology/chemistry classes. A chemical hygiene program
has been developed and it does address monitoring and evaluation of chemicals in the laboratory.

1.3 Significant Amounts of Hazardous Chemical Waste

1.3.1 A&M-San Antonio currently generates low amounts of hazardous waste. Disposal procedures are outlined in the Chemical Safety Guideline for on-campus disposal and the use of a third party disposal company.

1.4 Noise Hazards

1.4.1 A&M-San Antonio does not have activities that create noise levels exceeding the 8-hour time-weighted average exposure at or above 85dBA. However, hearing protection is provided and it is recommended that it be worn during activities that generate loud noise levels.

1.5 Respiratory Protection Program

1.5.1 A&M-San Antonio does not currently conduct any type of activity that creates the need for the use of respiratory equipment.

1.6 Asbestos and Lead Paint

1.6.1 No asbestos or lead paint was used in construction of any of the new buildings.

1.7 Heavy Equipment Operation

1.7.1 A&M-San Antonio currently does not have any heavy equipment operation at this time.

1.8 Bloodborne Pathogens

1.8.1 A&M-San Antonio currently has a Bloodborne Pathogen program in place for employees who are at risk for exposure to blood borne pathogens. Additional information can be found in the Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

System Policy 24.01 Risk Management

System Regulation 24.01.01 Risk Management Programs

A&M-San Antonio Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan
Contact Office

Business Affairs, Office of Safety, Risk and Emergency Management (210) 784-1150