Spill Response

Large

and

Small
Priority Mercury Spills

- Mercury and a heat source
- Young children; pregnant women
- Unknown or larger amount of mercury
- Large number of people involved
- Historic spills – possible long-term exposures
Assessment

- **Where did it happen?**
  - Home or Public place?
  - Bedroom or basement?
  - Storage shed or hospital room?

- **Who are the people affected?**
  - Sensitive population (children and pregnant women)
  - Adults, occupational workers?

- **When did this happen or when did you find it?**
  - Unknown?
  - Where is the person who witnessed it?
Assessment

- How much - the amount - container?

- Common items:
  - Compact fluorescent bulb .005 g
  - Fever Thermometer .5 g – 1 g
  - Thermostat 3 g
  - Sphygmomanometers 110 to 200 g
  - Ask the container and the fullness prior to the spill.

- What has been done to contain or cleanup?
Assessment

- Who needs to know (now)?

- Where did it come from – is there more?
Actions for the First Responder

- Restrict access to the area
- Remove people and pets safely, leave contaminated items behind
- Isolate HVAC, block return vents
- Lower the temperature in the room if possible
Actions, continued

- Cover spill with plastic sheeting.
- Ventilate vapors to the outdoors.
- Notify the local health department.
- Report 1 lb. or more to NRC, LEPC, PEAS.
What the data means

**Occupational Standards**

- IDLH 10,000 ug/m³
- NIOSH TWA 50 ug/m³

**Regulatory**

**Non-Occupational Starting Point Guidance**

- Evacuation >10 ug/m³
- Commercial < 3 ug/m³*
- Residential < 1 ug/m³*

* After cleanup, ventilation, and stabilization
Additional Questions, Comments?