

Avoid generating mixed waste (combinations of radioactive, biological and chemical waste)

Special Precautions:

Store Co-60 behind adequate lead (Pb) shielding (5 cm lead)

Use tools to indirectly handle unshielded sources and potentially contaminated containers - no direct hand contact

Ensure that an appropriate, operational survey meter is present in the work area and turned on whenever Co-60 is handled to immediately detect contamination

Shield waste containers as needed to maintain accessible dose rate ALARA

Safe Lab Practices:

Disposable gloves, lab coats, and safety glasses are the minimum PPE required when handling radioactive material

Remove and discard potentially contaminated PPE prior to leaving the lab area where radioactive material is used

Cover all lab bench tops where radioactive material is handled with plastic-backed absorbent paper – change as needed

Handle radioactive solutions in trays large enough to contain the material in the event of a spill