DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY FIRE SAFETY TEAM

The Fire Safety Team’s objective is to constantly improve and maintain a high level of safety standard in the department. The primary goal is to eliminate or reduce the risks of injuries to occupants working in the building. The second goal is to prevent damage to property.

To achieve these goals, the Fire Safety Team works together with the other safety teams and building occupants to establish a safe working environment by planning and implementing effective preventive measures. These measures include stepping up vigilance via routine building inspections, and educating and increasing the awareness of the individual on fire safety through training programs organised by the department and by Office of Safety, Health and Environment (OSHE).

Regular housekeeping is one of the best ways to reduce the risks of fire hazards, by keeping combustible materials away from the source of fire (e.g. power points and flame). All flammable chemicals are kept in safety cabinets and only small volumes are allowed to be kept on the working benches, provided that a proper labelling system is in place and is according to GHS guideline.

The NUS Fire Safety Manual provides many useful information and is highly recommended for all occupants to read. Approach any member of the Fire Safety Team if there are any queries.

Below are some useful tips and preventive measures to reduce fire-related risks and hazards:

1. Major contributing factors of electrical fires:
   a. Power overloading
   b. Short circuits
   c. Poor condition or quality of equipment and product

2. Common fire hazards:
   a. Items discarded along fire escape route
   b. Blocking of fire exits
   c. Obstructions to fire-fighting equipment (e.g. fire extinguisher, hose reel)

3. The 3 elements responsible for igniting and maintaining combustion (A fire will not ignite/not be able to sustain combustion if any of the below elements are absent or in insufficient amount):
   a. Fuel
   b. Heat
   c. Oxygen

4. Take note of the location of the below fire-fighting equipment:
   a. Fire extinguishers
   b. Fire blankets
   c. Fire hose reels

Upon physical discovery of fire, break the nearest call point to activate the fire alarm to alert everyone in the building. Inform the Fire Warden immediately.

NUS Emergency Contact Number (24-Hour Service): 6874-1616

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