Working Safely with $^{35}S$

**Safety Precautions:**

- Always wear gloves and a lab coat when working with any radioisotope.
- Survey meter with GM probe have a low efficiency for $^{35}S$, usually 4-8%. A pancake probe may be sensitive if used within a 1/2 inch of the surface.
- $^{35}S$ may be difficult to distinguish from $^{14}C$. If both nuclides are being used in the same laboratory, establish controls to ensure they are kept separate.
- Wipe tests should be taken and counted in a Liquid Scintillation Counter for greatest sensitivity when detecting removable surface contamination.
- Waste generated from $^{35}S$ should be stored in a covered acrylic waste container. Separate solid, liquids, and vial waste.
- $^{35}S$ labelled compounds in common use are often released as a radioactive contaminant to the air. Charcoal Filter traps should be used to reduce contamination from release of $^{35}S^2O$. 

**Quick Facts**

**Sulphur –35**

- **Low Energy Beta Emitter**
- **Half Life:** 87.4 days
- **Body badge is not required**
- **Ring badge is not required**

Radiation Safety (216) 368-2906

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Environmental Health and Safety