

Important Policies Regarding NMR Usage

It has become apparent that there are some policies regarding the use of the NMR facility which need to be clarified or reiterated. These policies concern:

1. unauthorized spectrometer use; i.e., using spectrometers without being checked out to do so,
2. undocumented spectrometer usage, and
3. use of substandard NMR tubes.

Please keep in mind as you read this that the reason for articulating these policies is to minimize the instrument downtime that can result from unauthorized and/or careless use.

1. Unauthorized spectrometer usage.

POLICY: every person who wants to use a spectrometer by themselves must be explicitly authorized to do so by myself or by a NMR Facility Student Assistant.

This "explicit authorization" will almost always be some kind of monitored check-out, in which the person demonstrates to the NMR staff that he/she can use the spectrometer in question, without assistance from another person, and without endangering either themselves or the spectrometer.

2. Undocumented spectrometer usage.

POLICY: every person who uses a spectrometer must document that usage on the logsheet.

This must be done regardless of the length of time the spectrometer was used, or the time of day it was used, etc. Everyone must be diligent about documenting spectrometer usage.

3. Use of substandard NMR tubes.

POLICY: only Wilmad 507PP or better (e.g.528PP) NMR tubes, or their equivalent, are approved for use in our NMR Facility.

The "thrift" NMR tubes that are available from some vendors are not allowed in any of the NMR Facility spectrometers. In addition, any NMR tube which does not fit snugly into the spinner turbine is not allowed. I strongly recommend the use of Wilmad 528PP tubes for the new Bruker Avance spectrometers and the Bruker AM-400, and Wilmad 507PP (or better) tubes for use in the Bruker AC-200 and the Varian Mercury-Vx-300. Note that the use of a substandard NMR tube can

damage the NMR spectrometer's probe. Repair of probe damage resulting from the use of a substandard NMR tube will be charged to the research group responsible for the damage.

In summary, you are expected to remember and adhere to the following policies:

- Unauthorized use of the spectrometers will result in suspension or denial of user privileges
- Undocumented use of the spectrometers will result in suspension of user privileges
- Use of substandard NMR tubes in the spectrometers will result in suspension of user privileges.

Revised 07-05-2000, JSH.