

## Animal Biosafety Level 2

Animal Biosafety Level 2 builds upon the practices, procedures, containment equipment, and facility requirements of ABSL-1. ABSL-2 is suitable for work involving laboratory animals infected with agents associated with human disease and pose moderate hazards to personnel and the environment. It also assesses hazards from ingestion as well as from percutaneous and mucous membrane exposure.

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receive appropriate training regarding their duties, animal husbandry procedure, potential hazards, manipulations of infectious agents, necessary precautions to prevent hazard or exposures, and hazard/exposure evaluation procedures (physical hazards, splash/aerosolization, etc.). Personnel must receive annual updates or additional training when procedures or policies change. Records are maintained for all hazard evaluations, employee training sessions and staff attendance.

4. Appropriate medical surveillance program is in place, as determined by risk assessment. The need for an animal allergy prevention program should be considered.

Facility supervisors should ensure that medical staff is informed of potential occupational hazards within the animal facility, to include those associated with research, animal husbandry, animal care and manipulations.

Personal health status may impact an individual's susceptibility to infection,

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7. Protective laboratory coats, gowns, uniforms are recommended to prevent contamination of personal clothing.

Gloves are worn to prevent skin contact with contaminated, infectious and hazardous materials and when handling animals.

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substituted for glassware whenever possible.

- e. Equipment containing sharps and corners should be avoided.
12. Equipment and work surfaces are routinely decontaminated with an appropriate disinfectant after work with infectious agent, and after any spills, splashes, or other overt contamination.
13. Animals and plants not associated with work being performed must not be permitted in the areas where infectious materials and/or animals are housed or are manipulated.
14. An effective integrated pest management program is required See Appendix G.
15. All wastes from the animal room (including animal tissues, carcasses, and bedding) are transported from the animal room in leak-proof containers for appropriate disposal in compliance with applicable institutional, local and state requirements.

Decontaminate of all potentially infectious materials before disposal using an effective method.

## B. Special Practices

1. Animal care staff, laboratory and routine support personnel must be provided a medical surveillance program as stated by the risk assessment, and administered appropriate immunizations for agents handled or potentially present, before entry into animal rooms.

When appropriate, a base line serum sample should be stored

2. Procedures involving a high potential for generating aerosols should be conducted within a biosafety cabinet or other physical containment device. When a procedure cannot be performed within a biosafety cabinet, a combination of personal protective equipment and other containment devices must be used.

Consideration should be given to the use of restraint devices and practices that reduce the risk of exposure during animal manipulations (e.g., physical restraint devices, chemical restraint medications, etc).

3. Decontamination is recommended for all potentially infectious materials and animal waste before movement outside areas where infectious materials and/or animals are housed or are manipulated by an appropriate method (e.g. autoclave, chemical disinfection, other approved decontamination methods). This includes potentially infectious animal tissues, carcasses, contaminated bedding, unused sharps, and other refuse.

Consideration should be given to means for decontaminating routine

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present, and should never be propped open. Doors to cubicles inside an animal room may open outward or inward horizontally or vertically.

2. A hand washing sink is located at the exit of the areas where infectious materials and/or animals are housed or manipulated. Additional sinks for hand washing should be located in other appropriate locations within the facility.

If the animal facility has segregated areas where infectious materials and/or animals are housed or manipulated, a sink must also be available for hand washing at the exit from each segregated area.

Sink traps are filled with water, and/or appropriate liquid to prevent the migration of vermin and gases.

3. The animal facility is designed, constructed, and maintained to facilitate cleaning and housekeeping. The interior surfaces (walls, floors and ceilings) are water resistant.

Penetrations in floors, walls and ceiling surfaces are sealed, to include openings around ducts, doors and door frames to facilitate pest control and proper cleaning.

Floors must be slip resistant, impervious to liquids, and resistant to chemicals.

4. Cabinets and bench tops must be impervious to water and resistant to heat, organic solvents, acids, alkalis, and other chemicals. Spaces between benches, cabinets, and equipment should be accessible for cleaning.

Furniture should be minimized. Chairs used in animal area must be covered with a non-porous material that can be easily cleaned and decontaminated. Furniture must be capable of supporting anticipated loads and uses. Sharp edges and corners should be avoided.

5. External windows are not recommended. If present, windows should be sealed and must be resistant to breakage. The presence of windows may impact facility security and therefore should be assessed by security personnel.

6. Ventilation should be provided in accordance with the *Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*.<sup>1</sup> The direction of airflow into the animal facility is inward; animal rooms should maintain inward direction of airflow compared to adjoining hallways. A ducted exhaust ventilation system is provided. Exhaust air is discharged to the outdoors without being recirculated to other rooms.

Ventilation system design should consider the heat and high moisture load produced during the cleaning of animal rooms and the cage wash process.

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7. Internal facility appurtenances, such as light fixtures, air ducts, and utility pipes, are arranged to minimize horizontal surface areas, to facilitate cleaning and minimize the accumulation of debris or fomites.