



Biosafety Stewardship

As some of you may be aware, the White House, National Institutes of Health, and the American Society for Microbiology recently issued statements urging research institutions to perform a "Safety Stand-Down" in order to review protocols for ensured best practices and to institute inventory monitoring. The following actions are ways in which PIs and research personnel are encouraged to bolster a culture of safety in the laboratory.

1) Review the current SOPs and policies in place in your laboratory, with particular attention paid toward safe handling and security of infectious agents.

- ♦ Assess whether "protocol drift" has occurred and modify these procedures accordingly.
- ♦ If not already completed, document your SOPs in writing.
- ♦ Ensure all personnel, including students and approved minors, receive all appropriate training, including the online modules required by the University of Kentucky IBC and the Division of Environmental Health and Safety.
- ♦ Inform all personnel of any lab specific safety issues, including any new or modified procedures and document any training on these.
- ♦ In addition to IBC review of materials and procedures within laboratories utilizing biohazardous materials, researchers may also contact the Department of Biological Safety at any time for consultation or assistance with performing a risk assessment and development of safe procedures, including decontamination and disposal of biohazardous materials.
- ♦ Any new materials and procedures utilized must be included in an amendment to currently approved IBC registrations.

2) Consistently conduct and maintain an inventory of any infectious agents and toxins in the laboratory.

- ♦ Inventories should include any and all agents infectious to humans, plants and/or animals, regardless of pathogenicity.
- ♦ Inventory should be documented on a regular basis and periodically reviewed for discrepancies.
- ♦ Personnel authorized to use and maintain inventory should also be documented.
- ♦ Unknown stocks or inventory abandoned by former researchers should be autoclaved and disposed.
- ♦ Freezers and refrigerators should be kept clean and orderly.

3) Storage of materials should always be under the proper containment and secured conditions.

- ♦ University of Kentucky Environmental Health and Safety policy stipulates that doors to laboratories with biological, chemical or radioactive materials in storage or use must remain closed, and when unoccupied, locked.
- ♦ Freezers that contain inventory and which reside in public spaces or common use equipment rooms should be locked.
- ♦ Ensure doors to laboratories utilizing or storing agents infectious to humans and/or equipment utilized in conjunction with agents infectious to humans are marked with the universal biohazard symbol.

2014 LABORATORY SAFETY FAIR

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Environmental Health & Safety

Thanks to all participants in this year's fair. See you in 2015!



352 days until the next Lab Safety Fair!

BETTER BIO AWARDS



The Dept. of Biological Safety would like to thank the following labs for setting a shining example of lab housekeeping and maintenance. Well done!

*Stobbs lab (Combs)
Korotkov/a lab (BBSRB)
Fondufe-Mittendorf lab (BBSRB)
Butterfield lab (Chem-Phys)
P. Guo lab (BioPharm)
Garvy lab (Med Sci)*

Biosafety Reminder:

WEAR SAFETY GLASSES IN THE LABORATORY!

Proper attire and personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn in the laboratory by lab personnel.

Additionally, to enter the lab, eye protection must be worn. This includes all laboratory personnel as well as visitors.



Do you have questions about the safety policies at the University of Kentucky?

Need help with training lab staff?

What about performing a risk assessment to determine proper containment procedures?

Ever have one of those days when you are unsure of whether a disposable gown or face shield should be used?

The staff in UK's Dept of Biological Safety are here to help!

For questions or consultation, or to set up a personalized training session for individuals or a group, please contact us at one of the phone numbers below or you can email us at:

ehsbiosafety@uky.edu



University of Kentucky

Department of Biological Safety

As part of the Division of Environmental Health & Safety, the Department of Biological Safety is responsible for programs concerning the safe use of recombinant and synthetic nucleic acids, infectious agents, and potentially infectious materials such as human sourced materials in the research and teaching laboratories at the University of Kentucky. This includes training, auditing, and consulting with researchers, laboratory personnel and teaching staff concerning compliance with the federal and state laws and regulations in these areas.

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Visit us on the web!

<http://ehs.uky.edu/biosafety/>