Department of Biological Safety

Biosafety News

Newsletter Date July 2013 Volume 7, Issue 4

Annual Requirement: Bloodborne Pathogens training

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) created the Occupational Exposure to Blood borne Pathogens Standard, 29 CFR Part 1910.1030 (Bloodborne Pathogens Standard) to minimize or eliminate exposure to infectious agents that may be present in human blood, tissues or certain body fluids (bloodborne pathogens).

The Bloodborne Pathogens Standard applies to all employers having employees that are "occupationally exposed" to human blood or other potentially infectious materials. An employee is considered occupationally exposed if there is "reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral contact with human blood or other potentially infectious materials in the performance of an employee's duties".

Other potentially infectious materials (OPIM) include:

- Human cell or tissue cultures, including established cell lines obtained from a repository such as ATCC
- Organ cultures
- Any unfixed tissue or organ, other than intact skin, from a human being (living or dead)
- HIV- or HBV- containing culture media or other solutions
- Human body fluids, except urine, feces, saliva, or tears unless visibly contaminated with blood
- Blood, organs or other tissues

All occupationally exposed employees are required by OSHA to attend a Bloodborne Pathogens training session prior to beginning work and annually thereafter.

Bloodborne Pathogens training is available on-line on the UK Department of Biological Safety website:
http://ehs.uky.edu/classes/

Remember, safety first!

Check out:

Real Clear Sciences Worst Lab Accidents in History
http://www.realclearscience.com/lists/worst_lab_accidents_in_history

Does your laboratory use or store one of the following toxins?

- Abrin
- Botulinum neurotoxins
- Short, paralytic alpha conotoxins
- Diacetoxyscirpenol (DAS)
- Ricin
- Saxitoxin
- Staphylococcal Enterotoxins (Subtypes A, B, C, D, and E)
- T-2 toxin
- Tetrodotoxin

In compliance with the "Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness Response Act of 2002" (Public Law 107-188) and the Select Agent regulations from the Centers for Disease Control (42 CFR 73) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (9 CFR 121, 7 CAR 331), **any lab at the University of Kentucky possessing any Select Agents or Toxins must contact the Department of Biological Safety (257-8655, ehsbiosafety@uky.edu).**

For more information, please visit: http://ehs.uky.edu/docs/pdf/bio_exempt_quantities_of_select_agents_and_toxins_0001.pdf

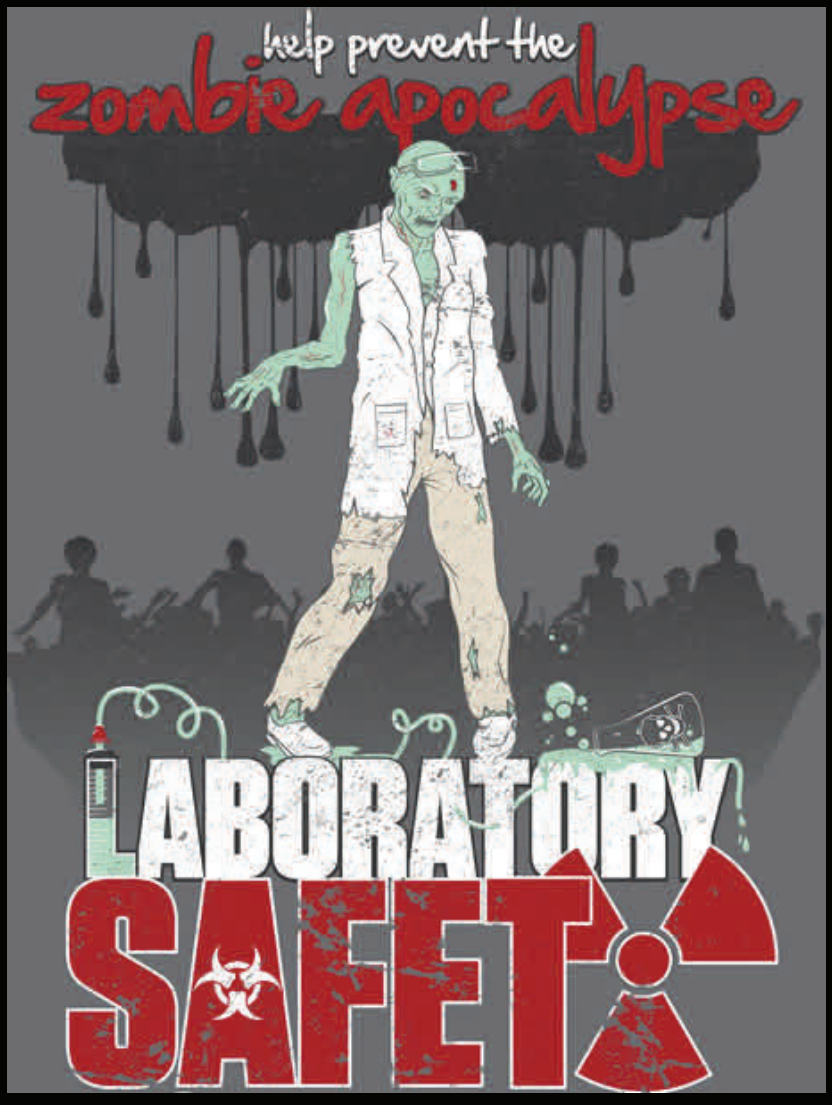
Mark your calendars!

The First Annual EH&S Laboratory Safety Fair is coming on Wednesday, October 9!

UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Environmental Health & Safety
Laboratory Safety Fair 2013

Demonstrations

Door prizes



Food

Activities

Giveaways

Fun!

What You Work With Can Make You Sick

Follow safe lab practices—and don't bring germs home with you.

Always wash your hands with soap and water...

- Right after working in the lab
- Just before you leave the lab

Don't carry dangerous germs from the laboratory home with you.

Leave personal items outside of the lab so you don't contaminate them: cell phone, car keys, tablet or laptop, MP3 player

Keep work items off of bench areas where you do experiments: backpacks, notebooks, pencils, pens

Avoid contamination while in the lab.

Don't eat, drink, or put things in your mouth (such as gum)

Don't touch your mouth or eyes

Don't put on cosmetics (like lip balm) or handle your contact lenses

Leave lab supplies inside the lab.

If you must take supplies out of the lab, keep them in a separate bag so you don't contaminate anything else

Leave your experiment inside the lab so you can stay healthy outside the lab.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

CS227166

Biosafety Reminder:

What NOT to do: gloves with personal electronic devices

Picture courtesy of University of Texas Austin EH&S
http://www.utexas.edu/safety/ehs/lab/manual/4_guidelines.html

Phones, mp3 players, headphones and other personal handheld electronic devices pose a distraction and can easily be contaminated with infectious or other hazardous materials.

Recent studies have shown that, in the average environment, cell phones can harbor more bacteria than most toilet seats. In fact, a Ugandan man contracted Ebola from a phone he stole from a hospital ward. If you work with any materials in your laboratory which are considered hazardous, and handle your phone with gloves, chances are that you carry these materials out of the lab via phone contamination and can pose an exposure risk to you and others.

Gloves should always be discarded before handling these devices and likewise before touching other common use surfaces, items (ex: computer keyboards, door knobs) and spaces.

Shipping Requirements

If your laboratory ships hazardous materials, including infectious agents, potentially or suspected infectious samples, or recombinant materials (ex: viral vectors), please ensure that you have been properly trained by the University in the approved DOT/ IATA Shipping Training. This training should be completed by at least one individual in the laboratory. This individual shall be responsible for all package preparation and shipment of biological specimens. Be aware that additional restrictions apply to shipment destinations outside the United States. If no one in the lab has received training, contact the Department of Environmental Management (323-6280) to receive training.

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.

Visit us on the web!

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

505 Oldham Court
Lexington, Kentucky 40502

Brandy Nelson, Biological Safety Officer
859-257-1049

Holley Trucks, Asst. Biological Safety Officer
859-257-8655

Eric Rouse, Biological Safety Specialist
859-323-5728

Delena Mazzetti, Biological Safety Specialist
859-257-1073