



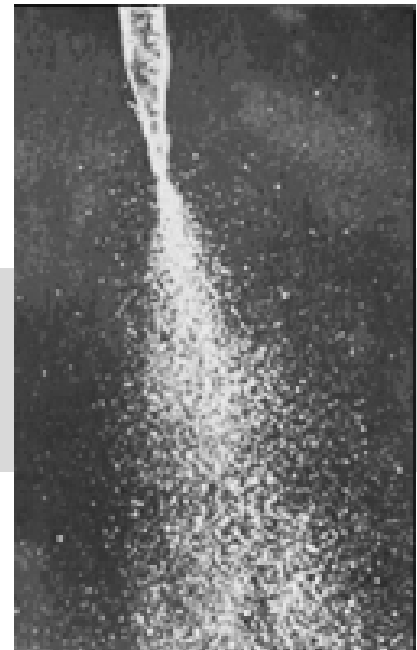
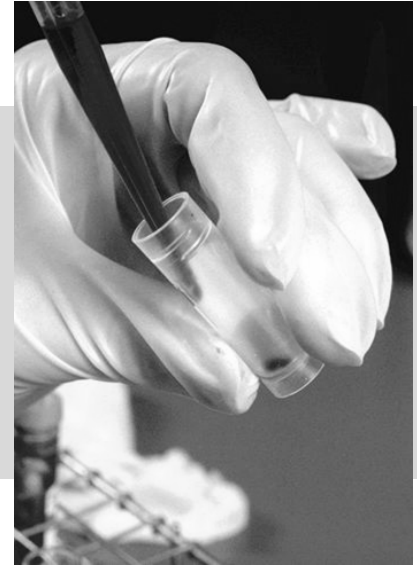
# Biosafety Office

## Aerosol Exposure Control - Pipetting

*Exposure to aerosols may occur when liquid from a pipette is dropped onto the work surface, when cultures are mixed by pipetting, or when the last drop of an inoculum is blown out. A pipette may become a hazardous piece of equipment if improperly used. Whenever possible, confine pipetting of biohazardous liquids to a biosafety cabinet.*

### Safe Pipetting Technique

- Do not discharge biohazardous material from a pipette at a height. Whenever possible, allow the discharge to run slowly down the wall of the tube or bottle or be discharged as close as possible to the fluid or agar level.
- Always use cotton-plugged pipettes when pipetting biohazardous materials.
- Never mix any kind of biohazardous suspension by suction and expulsion through a pipette. Do not prepare biohazardous materials by bubbling expiratory air through a liquid with a pipette.
- Never lay a pipette flat on a table or turn upside down with the bulb or pump attached. The liquid will flow into the bulb/pump, contaminating the bulb/pump.
- Biohazardous materials should not be forcibly discharged from pipettes. Use “to contain (TC)” pipettes rather than those requiring blowout – “to deliver (TD)”.



‘Blow-out’ or “to deliver (TD)” pipettes are calibrated so that the last drop of liquid needs to be blown-out of the tip to deliver the full volume of the pipette.



“To contain (TC)” pipettes are not graduated to the tip. In this type pipette, few drops will remain in pipette.

