



## Summer 2024

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (**EPA**) has issued a final rule regulating the use of the solvent **methylene chloride (dichloromethane, DCM)**. The rule, which went into effect in July, bans almost all uses of the chemical. **While the laboratory use of DCM is not banned, the EPA has issued strict requirements for any continued use.** To comply we must identify all methylene chloride on campus and perform exposure monitoring for any activity involving DCM.

The Office of Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) is working to facilitate compliance with this mandate. Please **check your chemical inventory for all methylene chloride, including mixtures where the chemical is present >0.1%.** Whenever possible eliminate; if you no longer need the chemical submit for hazardous waste pickup immediately. If you cannot eliminate, consider substitutes. If you actively use the chemical or products containing >0.1% DCM, consider what alternatives could be used and if they will work for your project.

**If you cannot eliminate or substitute DCM, you will need to develop an Exposure Control Plan,** EH&S will work with you to develop this plan. It is critical that every department and principal investigator participate in this program inventory, so please identify the location and the amounts of the DCM and **send the information to EH&S via email to [Jason Lambers](#) by August 15, 2024.** Contact Jason Lambers at 556-4968 for additional guidance.

Did you get a very flattering invitation for a group that you never heard of? If it sounds too good to be true, it's likely a scam. **Predatory conferences** are increasing. If you receive an invitation for conference participation do an internet search to find out what others have to say about the conference and conference organizers and read previous conference proceedings. Verify that the speakers and affiliations are current, reach out to those named to verify that they are participating. Don't give scammers your money, for more tips go to [https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-02360-2?WT.ec\\_id=NATURE-20240801&utm\\_source=nature\\_etoc&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20240801&sap-outbound-id=EAB643E13316A418B7ACFF8C11634651100E47EE](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-02360-2?WT.ec_id=NATURE-20240801&utm_source=nature_etoc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20240801&sap-outbound-id=EAB643E13316A418B7ACFF8C11634651100E47EE).

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is soliciting comments from the public on the NIH Draft **Public Access Policy** and two supplemental draft guidance documents regarding government use license and rights and costs for publications. Go to <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/06/18/2024-13373/request-for-information-on-the-national-institutes-of-health-draft-public-access-policy> to learn more.

Speaking of access, [OhioLINK](#), Ohio's academic library consortium, has [negotiated deals with publishers](#) that increase the number of journal titles available for UC as well as offer open access publishing at no cost to authors. Authors can increase the availability of their research without any Article Publication Charges. For an overview of OhioLINK Open Access resources go to: [https://www.ohiolink.edu/content/open\\_access\\_authors](https://www.ohiolink.edu/content/open_access_authors) . For help with OhioLINK and/or accessing publications please contact [UC Libraries](#).

We are here to facilitate your research.

Feel free to reach out with suggestions, questions, or concerns.

Jane Strasser, PhD

Senior Associate Vice President for Research

Research Compliance Officer

Research Integrity Officer

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## **ANIMAL CARE AND USE PROGRAM**

### **Buprenex ER Backorder**

Buprenex ER 0.5mg/ml (mouse) is on backorder. Shortages and backorders of veterinary drugs, including the extended release (ER) forms of buprenorphine and meloxicam are happening frequently. LAMS continues to work to identify alternatives. Please assume there will be delays with your order; email [LAMS Veterinary Staff](#) for alternatives and help ordering.

### **Upcoming Audits**

August 2024 -- DEA mandates annual audits. To facilitate compliance the IACUC Office will be conducting [Annual audits](#) for individuals using/storing controlled substances in animal research..

September 2024 - IACUC [semi-annual inspections](#) for all animal use locations.

### **Animal Hood Disinfection**

Laminar flow benches, biosafety cabinets, and fume hoods are all designed to provide a clean environment to work with animals. Protect your research by cleaning the hood before and after each use to reduce the likelihood of cross-contamination. To minimize the spread of contaminants, start with the cleanest part of the cabinet. Spray/wipe down all interior surfaces of the hood with disinfectant in the following order: back → top → sides → inside of sash → bottom (work surface).

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## **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

**There are ongoing supply chain problems for veterinary drugs.** Please assume there will be delays with your order; email [LAMS Veterinary Staff](#) for alternatives and help ordering.

## **OBP/DEA Registration Changes & Transfers**

### Registration Changes

1. The registration holder/owner (registrant) submits changes (including name, address, schedule, and drug codes) for approval on the [OBP eLicense](#) website. Refer to OBP guides for [Making a Change to a License](#) and [Change of Responsible Person](#).
2. Once OBP approved, the registrant submits a change request on the [DEA website](#). Changes are effective upon DEA approval.
3. Notify your department, college, and [UCORI](#) of approved changes.

### Registration Transfer

1. Submit notification to the [DEA Special Agent in Charge](#) at least 14 calendar days in advance of the proposed date of transfer in person or by registered/certified [mail](#) (with return receipt) with all [required information](#).
2. Return unused DEA Form 222s reflecting discontinued information to the [DEA Registration Unit](#).
3. Review and follow [specific requirements](#) should transfer of controlled substances inventory also need to accompany the transfer of registration.
4. **You may not transfer without DEA approval.**
5. Notify your department, college, and [UCORI](#) of approved transfers.

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## **EXPORT CONTROLS, RESEARCH TRANSPARENCY, AND SECURITY**

### **Conflicts of Interest Policy Changes**

To assure objectivity and integrity in research and training, and that activities are not compromised or perceived to be compromised by matters of financial benefit or personal gain the [Individual Conflicts of Interest on Externally Funded Projects](#) policy has replaced the Conflict of Interest on Externally Funded Projects policy. The revised policy prohibits Investigators from participating in [malign foreign talent recruitment programs](#) (MFTRP) in accordance with Department of Defense policy requirements. To learn more about MFTRP, please review the [8-minute training video](#). If you have any questions about the revised policy, please reach out to [conflictofinterest@uc.edu](mailto:conflictofinterest@uc.edu).

## **International Travel Reminder**

Different countries have different regulations about technology that may impact your travel plans. If you will be taking your UC equipment with you and/or accessing your UC accounts while traveling, reach out to the Export Control team to discuss your plans. We can ensure that you have the proper information, paperwork and equipment to reduce any issues you may have with your equipment and access while you travel. We can be reached at [exportco@uc.edu](mailto:exportco@uc.edu).

## **Research Security**

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy has issued [research security program guidelines](#). The guidelines mandate that UC (as a research institution receiving federal science and engineering support in excess of \$50 million per year) certify to federal funding agencies that we have established and operate a research security program. Requirements include training for covered individuals in the following areas: [Cybersecurity](#), [Foreign Travel Security](#), [research security](#) and [export control](#). The program is evolving as federal agencies provide additional guidance. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the [Office of Research Security and Ethics](#).

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## **HUMAN RESEARCH PROTECTIONS PROGRAM**

### **CITI Training**

On the [citiprogram.org](http://citiprogram.org) site, you may find the University of Cincinnati under the learners group titled Greater Cincinnati Academic and Regional Health Center (GCARHC). The GCARHC specific training needs to be completed to meet UC IRB requirements. If you have questions or concerns, please contact [IRB@uc.edu](mailto:IRB@uc.edu)

### **sIRB**

When preparing proposals that include UC's IRB as the IRB of record, reach out to HRPP at [irb@uc.edu](mailto:irb@uc.edu) to discuss the additional costs for reviewing external sites and get help incorporating those costs into your proposal budget.

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## LAB SAFETY NEWS

### BIOSAFETY

#### IMPORTANT! Upcoming Changes to Biosecurity U.S. Policy

The U.S. government released an [updated biosecurity policy](#) integrating the Dual Use Research of Concern (DURC) and the Pathogens with Enhanced Pandemic Potential (PEPP) frameworks. Changes include expansion of biological agents and toxins requiring DURC oversight. Under the new rule **ANY quantity of Select Agent biological toxins** (abrin, botulinum neurotoxins, short paralytic alpha conotoxins, Diacetoxyscirpenol, ricin, saxitoxin, Staphylococcal enterotoxins, T-2 toxin, and tetrodotoxin) will fall under this this new rule and will require oversight. If you possess any of the select agent biological toxins, please contact the [Biosafety Office](#) for more information. This policy becomes effective one year from its release (May 26, 2025). [Learn more about upcoming policy changes.](#)

#### NEW! Shipping Biohazards & Dry Ice page

Check out the new [Shipping Biohazards & Dry Ice page](#) on Bearcats Landing. It contains links to training, guidance on the classification of materials, permits, international shipment, shipping suppliers and other useful information.

### RADIATION SAFETY

#### Radiation Generating Equipment (RGE)

The Radiation Safety Office (RSOf) oversees regulatory compliance for all RGE (e.g., X-Ray tube(s)/units) at UC. RGE must be registered with the Ohio Department of Health and maintained by the RSOf on campus-specific state-issued registrations. The RSOf must be informed if your lab has plans to (1) procure, (2) move, (3) dispose, (4) repair, or (5) change the operational status of an RGE. Submit RGE change notifications to RSOf in [Gamma 2](#). All RGE operators must be registered in [Gamma 2](#), have RGE training, and wear dosimeters. Contact RSOf at 513-558-4110 with questions or for assistance.

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## **SAVE THE DATE & ONLINE RESOURCES**

### **Upcoming Events**

9/26-9/27/2024 1:00-4:30 PM both days. [Human Research Protections: Times Like These](#)

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