

Occupational Health and Safety Information for Animal Handlers and Visitors

1. Contact Information

Situation	Contact Resource
All emergencies	Call 911 (cellphone) OR 513-556-1111 (landline)
Health non-emergencies	<i>Business hours:</i> University Health Services (UHS) - 513-584-4457 <i>All other times:</i> Visit UC Medical Center or the closest emergency room
Biological non-emergencies	Biosafety Office - 513-558-6182 or 513-558-6355
Chemical non-emergencies	Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) - 513-556-4968 or 513-556-1111
Radiological non-emergencies	Radiation Safety - 513-558-4110, 24/7 after hours pager - 513-249-6812
General inquiries	IACUC Office - 513-558-5187 OR LAMS Office - 513-558-5171

2. Personnel Responsibilities

Personnel	Responsibilities
Supervisors and Principal Investigators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform staff of potential risks associated with exposure to animals and report injuries/illness to UHS. Refer staff to UHS for evaluation when employee exposure to animal-related activities changes.
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must use appropriate protective precautions. Must report injuries and unsafe conditions to their supervisor and UHS and/or EH&S.
Visitors/Visiting Scientists <i>anyone not enrolled in the UC OHSP</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UC sponsor must inform visitors of potential risks and must review this document with them. Visitors (excluding LAMS contractors) must remain under direct supervision of an animal user approved on the IACUC protocol. Visitors must participate in their own institution's Occupational Health & Safety Program (OHSP).

3. Animal Research Associated Health Risks

General precautions include good hygiene practices, being aware of your surroundings, using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), asking questions, and reporting incidents/injuries. **For all incidents, notify your supervisor immediately and complete an Initial Report on Work Related Injury or Illness form. Inform your medical provider at time of treatment this is a work-related injury/illness.** Forms available on UHS [website](https://www.med.uc.edu/uhs/employees/work-related-forms): <https://www.med.uc.edu/uhs/employees/work-related-forms>

Potential Hazards	Appropriate Precautions
Anesthetic Gases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriately scavenge gas waste. <i>Isoflurane is a reproductive hazard.</i>
Animal Allergies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use PPE and know common symptoms, such as breathing difficulty, sneezing, itchy eyes, runny nose, or a rash/hives when in contact with animals.
Animal Bites & Scratches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know the behavior of the species and use proper handling/restraint techniques and PPE.
Chemical, Biological, or Radiological Exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete LAMS Hazard Training prior to hazard use in LAMS. Complete required training with EH&S, Biosafety, or Radiation Safety prior to hazard use.
Environmental Hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request training before using new equipment or performing unfamiliar tasks. Report potential hazards to supervisor and exercise caution in areas of known risk.
Needle Sticks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not recap needles. Follow OSHA Universal Precautions (contact UHS for a physical copy). <i>Needle sticks: cleanse wound with soap and water and irrigate area; call UHS at 513-584-STIX to report.</i>
Zoonotic Diseases (Zoonoses) <i>any disease that can be passed from animals to humans</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact with feral animals or random source carnivores, and exposure to pregnant ruminants increase risk of zoonoses. Zoonoses are related to specific species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Amphibians/Reptiles: Salmonella</i> o <i>Birds: Avian flu, Psittacosis, Toxoplasmosis</i> o <i>Cats: Rabies, Roundworms, Ringworm, Cat-scratch fever, Toxoplasmosis</i> o <i>Cattle: Brucellosis, Cryptosporidium, Ringworm</i> o <i>Dogs: Rabies, Roundworms, Ringworm</i> o <i>Fish: Mycobacterial dermatitis</i> o <i>Pigs: Swine flu</i> o <i>Rabbits: Ringworm</i> o <i>Rodents (lab bred): Rat bite fever</i> o <i>Rodents (wild): Hanta virus, Leptospirosis, Lymphocytic choriomeningitis, Rabies</i> o <i>Sheep & Goats: Q fever, Orf, Brucellosis</i>

I have read and understand the information provided in the Occupational Health and Safety for Animal Handlers and Visitors form, as well as the risks associated with the specific animal and hazard contact that I will have at the University of Cincinnati. I agree to comply with all applicable federal, state, and university regulations, policies and guidelines relating to research animal contact and associated hazards.

UC Sponsor Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Visitor Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

MULTIPLE VISITORS? FLIP PAGE FOR ADDITIONAL SIGNATURE LINES.

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