#### Working Safely With Animals in Containment

#### Hazards and Containment Considerations

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Rendering of UTHSC Regional Biocontainment Lab, Scheduled for completion 2008.





Hazard Identification in Animal Biocontainment Facilities

> Daily Operation Research Protocols Personnel

# Working Safely With Animals in Containment

Facilities Engineering Controls PPE Practices and Procedures Occupational Health

#### Animal Care Challenge in Containment



# Taining

# **Training**Biosafety Training

Species Specific Husbandry Handling and Restraint Biomethodology

# Training

Equipment Cage Handling Facility Operation

#### **Animal Biosafety Level 3**

Properly maintained BSCs, and other physical containment devices or equipment, should be used for all manipulations for infectious materials and when possible, animals. These manipulations include necropsy, harvesting of tissues or fluids from infected animals or eggs, and intranasal inoculation of animals.



#### Animal Biocontainment Hazards

Splashes and mists

Aerosol

Release of fluids







#### **Animal Care Hazards**

#### Skin puncture or cut

 Direct contact with contaminated body fluids and tissues







#### **Sharps in Containment**

- Scalpel
- Needles
- Scissors
- Pipette Tips
- Glass
- Blades







# **Animal Biosafety Level 3**

When impractical to work in BSC, personal protective equipment is the primary barrier between personnel and the infectious materials.

Examples include certain animal studies, animal necropsy, agent production activities, and activities relating to maintenance, service, or support of the laboratory facility.



#### PPE

Appropriate for ABSL3
Double Glove
N95 respirator
Goggles or face shield







# **Assessment of Risk**

#### What is the hazard?

- Why is it a hazard or a potential hazard?
- What is the risk of personnel exposure to the hazard?
- What conditions will exist or procedures will be performed that will cause human exposure?

## Risk Assessment of Research Animal Protocols

- Is it aerosolized?
- Is it excreted?
- Bedding, cage hazardous?
- On skin or fur of animal?
- Animal tissues/body fluids hazardous?
- Feed or feeder?
- Water or bottle?

#### **Experimental Hazards**

Expose Animal to **Experimental** Agent -Oral -Injection -Topical -Inhalation







#### **Practices and Procedures**

- Animal Manipulations
- Husbandry/Cage Change
- Empty Soiled Bedding
- Disposal of Soiled Bedding









**Identification of Hazards by Functional Areas** 

Cage wash
Animal Rooms
Surgery, Treatment, and Procedure Rooms
Special Procedure Areas

#### **Animal Rooms**

- Animal
- Experimental Agent







 Sanitizing and Disinfecting Agents

#### Cages wash

- Soiled cages
- Empty soiled bedding and autoclave
- Autoclave and empty soiled bedding
- Rinse/pre-treat, preclean









#### Necropsy

SharpsSplashesChemicals







#### **Carcass Disposal**

#### Autoclave

#### Incineration

#### Tissue Digester







## **Animal Subjects**

Rodents – Allergens Dander Saliva Urinary **Proteins** – Zoonotic Agents LCMV – Bites, Scratches







# **Control of Personnel Exposure**

Physical Controls

Administrative Controls

 Identification of Personnel at Risk







#### **Administrative Controls**

- Identify Personnel At Risk
  - IACUC Protocol
  - Animal Care
     Personnel
  - Others
- Authorized Access
- Required Occupational Health Enrollment
- Required Training







#### **Risk Assessment of Personnel**

Who is exposed?
Who will enter animal facility?
Who will enter animal room?
Who will have direct exposure to animals?

Who will have direct exposure to soiled cages, bedding, waste, tissues or fluids?

#### **Occupational Health**

Risk Assessment – Exposure - Frequency – Duration Medical Monitoring Immunizations













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