

# OHIO UNIVERISTY HEALTH AND RISK ASSESSMENT FOR EMPLOYEE SAFETY IN THE CARE AND USE OF ANIMALS

Complete, affix signatures and return signed original to Biosafety Officer 171 University Service Center, telephone 593-1662. **Copies of publications referred to in this form are available on the Web at <https://www.ohio.edu/riskandsafety/ehs/index.htm> .**

1. Occupational health and safety principles require that employees know the hazards associated with their work, understand how these hazards are controlled, have safe practices, and use protective supplies and equipment.
2. The *Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* requires institutions to provide occupational health-care services to employees who work with animals.
3. The report of the *Committee on Occupational Safety and Health in Research Animal Facilities*, emphasizes that a risk assessment be a prerequisite in selecting appropriate health-care services for each employee. This is not a requirement to provide specific health-care services to all employees with animal contact.
4. This should be a collaborative assessment of risk in which the principal investigator, research employee, health and safety officers, veterinarian, compliance officer, and animal care staff participate.
5. As a way of initiating and documenting this assessment, **each employee working with animals must complete this health and risk assessment document.**

## 1. PERSONNEL.

Employee's Name	Id or PID #	Address	Phone
Principal Investigator's Name	Department	Phone	

## 2. PROTOCOL RELATED EXPOSURES.

Indicate the protocols in which you will be involved, the species to be used, and any unique hazards associated with the animal care and use aspects of each protocol (attach additional sheets if necessary).

IACUC#	Species	Physical, Chemical, Carcinogenic, or Radioactive Hazards

## 3. INFECTIOUS AND BIOHAZARDOUS AGENTS.

Do these protocols involve animals experimentally or naturally infected with an infectious agent known to cause disease in healthy adult humans, (Agents in Risk Group RG2, RG3, or RG4, of Appendix B of *NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules* (NIH, 1994), or an agent in the agent summary statements of *Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories* (CDC-NIH, 1993), or an agent known to cause disease in animals, which is infectious to human cells (Agents in Appendix B-V of *NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules* (NIH, 1994), or a zoonotic agent in the agent summary statements of *Occupational Health and Safety in the Care and Use of Research Animals* (NRC, 1997)?

No:  Proceed to Item #4.    Yes:  This infectious agent(s) is:

of NIH Risk Group:

#### 4. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS.

Do these protocols involve exposure to unvaccinated or uncharacterized carnivores, pregnant sheep, goats, or cattle, or nonhuman primates?

No:  Proceed to Item #5. Yes:  Contact Biosafety Officer at 593-1662 for further instructions.

**Occupational health care services are required for employees engaged in research involving unvaccinated or uncharacterized carnivores, pregnant sheep, goats or cattle, or nonhuman primates.**

#### 5. CLINICAL CONDITION.

Should an occupational health care professional be made aware of any previously undeclared, existing, or possible future conditions which could affect your ability to perform your research duties without risk of substantial harm, such as, but not limited to, a personal or family history of allergy (e.g., seasonal rhinitis, hay fever, eczema, hives, latex allergy), asthma symptoms (e.g., coughing, wheezing, chest tightness, or shortness of breath), chronic skin condition or irritation, tuberculosis, spina bifida, diabetes, epilepsy, immunodeficiencies, hearing loss, or medications which compromise immunocompetence?

No:  Proceed to Item #6. Yes:  Contact the Biosafety professional for consultation at 593-1662

#### 6. TETANUS.

Puncture wounds from sharps, and from animal bites is an intermittent, but ubiquitous hazard. Animal bites, even those by rodents, can develop complications. All personnel working with animals must keep their tetanus immunization status current. The *Public Health Service Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices* (IPAC 1996) recommends administration of vaccine for tetanus every ten years. If you are unaware of your tetanus immunization status, or if it is outdated, and you are an OU employee using animals, would you like to have information regarding tetanus immunization?

Yes:  Contact Express Care  
Or County Health Dept.

No:  I will make other arrangements to maintain current tetanus status.

#### 8. CERTIFICATION.

I have discussed the potential risks and hazards associated with my involvement in animal protocols with the principal investigator of those protocols.

I understand that an **Accident Investigation Report for Supervisors** must be completed after all accidents, injuries, or suspected hazard exposures which involve animals, or which occur in animal facilities.

I understand that recommendations can be made regarding this health & safety program c/o Biosafety at 593-1662. **We welcome any suggestions for additional precautions, containment practices or facilities, protective devices, disposal or decontamination procedures, or other safety procedures to protect personnel, and prevent accidental animal exposure to hazardous materials.**

I assure that the conduct of protocols and all animal care and use will be in accordance with the *IACUC's Principles & Procedures of Animal Care and Use*, and the principles and guidelines referenced above. This description is complete and accurate. As indicated by the certification number above, I am certified as adequately trained and experienced to conduct my duties.

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Signature of Employee

Date

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Signature of Principal Investigator

Date