



The Lab Rat NEWS

January/February 2011 Edition

EMORY

Environmental Health and
Safety Office
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AAALAC

By Dr. Michael Huerkamp

The Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International site visit of all of the animal care and use programs at Emory University is scheduled for **March 7-9, 2011** and will include laboratories where animal procedures are done. The site visit team for the main campus will be led by Dr. Mark Suckow and is also comprised of AAALAC Board of Trustees member Bill Yates, PhD and veterinary *ad hoc* consultants Drs. Pat Nossov and Greg Hanley. For the Yerkes component, Dr. James Elliott is the AAALAC Council member leading the site visit and Dr. Susan Tardiff is the ad hoc consultant joining him.

AAALAC International was founded in 1966 and is a private, nonprofit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through voluntary accreditation and assessment programs. Accredited institutions demonstrate via triennial evaluations that they not only meet the minimum requirements required by law and federal granting agency policies, but go the extra step to achieve excellence in animal care and use. In doing so, assurance is provided to funding agencies and the general public that the likelihood is high for the conduct of high quality experiments and the generation of valid data. More than 800 companies, universities, hospitals, government agencies and other research institutions in 34 countries have earned AAALAC accreditation. The Yerkes National Primate Research Center component of Emory was first accredited in 1985 and was followed by the rest of the campus in 1992.

Laboratories will be site visited, particularly those where surgery and other experimental procedures are done on animals. Bullet-point reminders of historical Emory and nationwide lab-related findings are provided for your review and continued safe practice:

- Personnel should comply fully with the protocol approved by the IACUC and therefore should have reviewed and have specific knowledge of any and all procedures associated with each protocol. For example, any euthanasia method, aseptic surgery practice, and post-operative administration of pain-relieving drugs (or withholding) must be consistent with the described content of the protocol.

- The site visitors are likely to ask to see records that document post-procedural care and regularity of observation as required in the approved protocol.

- The use and storage of multi-dose containers of drugs, mixed combinations of drugs, and reconstitution of non-pharmaceutical grade drugs should be compliant with IACUC policies on expired materials, non-pharmaceutical grade agents and injectable agents found on the IACUC web site.

To review these policies, go to the IACUC web site (<http://www.iacuc.emory.edu>) and select the links for any or all of the following:

- Expired Materials Policy
- Non-Pharmaceutical Grade Drugs
- Policy for Use of Injectable Agents

The expiration dates of drugs, fluids, sutures and other consumable materials that may be given to animals should be routinely monitored. All expired items should be properly discarded.

- All controlled drugs, should be kept in a locked container meeting requirements for controlled drug storage and have accurate records of usage. Gas anesthetic vaporizer maintenance and calibration must comply with IACUC policy. To review this policy, go to the IACUC web site at http://www.iacuc.emory.edu/policy/policy1/Vaporizer_Policy.pdf

Training

Most of EHSO's Trainings are available online in Blackboard.

www.ehso.emory.edu for registration information.

Radiation Safety Training

2nd Tuesdays at 1:00 pm

Laboratory Safety Training

3rd Thursdays at 10:00 am

Shipping Training

January 25th, 2011 (12:00p.m-4:00p.m)

Eye Wash Testing

Someone in your lab should test the eyewash station once a month.

Bio-safety Cabinets/Chemical Fume Hoods Certification required annually.

Chemical/Radioactive Waste

Pick-up Schedule:

Monday Pick-up

RRC

Whitehead

1462 Clifton Road

School of Public Health

Tuesday Pick-up

Math & Science

Tuesday & Friday Pick-up

Atwood and Emerson

Wednesday Pick-up

Emory Children's Center

Clinic Building A & B

Winship Cancer Institute

Yerkes Main Station

Thursday Pick-up

Woodruff Memorial Research Building

EUH (Clifton)

Friday Pick-up

All others on Atlanta campus

All **chemical** waste pick up should be requested by emailing

chemwaste@emory.edu

All **radioactive** waste pick up should be requested via EHS Assist pick-up. **Chemical** waste disposal inventory form and/or **radioactive** waste inventory form should accompany all waste containers at the time of pick-up.

- Any food or treats for the animals that are kept in the laboratory should not be kept beyond the expiration date and should be stored in a closed, labeled container with a tight-fitting lid.
- All personnel in the laboratory should know how to access Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for each chemical and drug used or kept in the lab.
- To access the repository of MSDS maintained by EHSO, please use the following link: <http://www.ehso.emory.edu/msds.htm>.
- All personnel in the laboratory should know that there is an occupational health and safety program available to them at no cost through the Employee Health Service. To participate in this program, go to the IACUC web site (<http://www.iacuc.emory.edu/>) and select the following link at the "Training and OHS" section:
- All personnel in the laboratory should know how to obtain medical care in the case of an animal bite or other injury or accident and following first aid.
- All personnel should know how to document an injury or exposure, whether trivial or non-trivial, via the STARS system.
- To access the STARS system, go the EHSO web site at: ([http://www.ehso.emory.edu/emergency how to report an accident.htm](http://www.ehso.emory.edu/emergency%20how%20to%20report%20an%20accident.htm)).
- Areas where animals are used should be kept clean and uncluttered, including areas for rodent surgery.
- Animals should not be housed or kept in laboratories (or outside of the animal research facility) for more than 24 continuous hours without the knowledge and consent of the IACUC.

The use of paraformaldehyde, formalin and other fixatives for terminal animal perfusions should comply with laboratory safety standards for the prevention of human exposure to these agents. Contact your buildings liaison about paraformaldehyde monitoring.

In the animal facility, where hazardous chemicals are given to animals, the signage notification system and associated safety practices taught by DAR should be strictly followed.

All other IACUC policies can be found at: <http://www.iacuc.emory.edu/policy/policy1/index.cfm>.

New EHSO Documents!

Check out our website to see these new documents:
NEW version of the *Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan*



We need your Input and Expertise!
In order to meet various regulatory requirements, EHSO runs multiple committees on campus: Radiation Safety, Institutional Health and Safety Committee, Chemical Safety Committee, etc. The success of these committees relies largely on the input of experts in the field. If you would like to join one of these committees, please email biosafe@emory.edu.

EHSO is always striving for improving processes and procedures. Many times we request labs to beta test new forms, procedures, or systems. We are always in need of new beta testers and would love to have input from a larger pool of researchers so we better suit the needs of the Emory research community. If your lab would like to become a beta testing lab and help in creating these new processes, please email biosafe@emory.edu.

PPE

Personal Protective
Equipment

Choice to be based on potential exposures involved:

Eye: Glasses, goggles & face shields

Gloves: Appropriate for the type of procedure

Clothing: Gowns, lab coats, aprons, coveralls

Respirators: Appropriate for the type of procedure



Fire Extinguishers

Check fire extinguishers in your lab:

A. Is it present and mounted in its proper location?

B. Is it readily accessible?

If it appears to need servicing contact the Maintenance HELP line at 7-7463



Contact Employee Health Services /Emory Healthcare Corporate regarding immunization information at (404-728-6437)

Lab Rat NEWS January/February Edition

We would like to hear from you

What do you like most about the Lab Rat?

What do you like least about the Lab Rat?

Which article was most helpful to you?

What topics would you like to be featured in upcoming issues?

Do you have an article you would like to contribute?

Feel free to send your answers to biosafe@emory.edu. We look forward to reading your ideas and comments!

Laboratory Oven Safety

By Meagan Parrott



Lab ovens are used in research labs across the Emory Campus and although they are most commonly used for drying glassware, they pose significant health and fire hazards. Recently, an oven caught fire and caused fire and consequential water damage in the Claudia Nance Rollins School of Public Health Building. This simple fire has attributed to **\$60,000** worth of damage to the building. To avoid fires, explosions or other incidents adhere to the following when using laboratory ovens:

- NEVER use lab ovens for human food preparation.
- Laboratory ovens should be constructed such that their heating elements and temperature controls are physically separated from their interior atmospheres.
- Verify with the manufacturer that glassware, lids and trays inserted into the oven are made of a material that can handle the high oven temperatures. Certain Nalgene trays are not appropriate for oven use.
- Glassware that has been rinsed with an organic solvent should be rinsed again with distilled water before being dried in an oven to prevent explosions.
- Whenever possible, use bimetallic strip thermometers for monitoring oven temperatures.
- Do not mount mercury thermometers through holes in the top of ovens so that the bulb hangs into the oven. If a mercury thermometer breaks in a lab oven, close and turn off the oven immediately, and contact EHSO to clean up the mercury spill.
- Never use ovens to dry toxic chemicals unless the oven is properly ventilated.
- Never use an oven without properly closing the door.



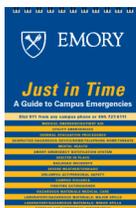
Emergency Response Procedure

By Dionna Thomas

The laboratory is a place where numerous hazardous substances are handled on a daily basis. Although, many personnel make an effort to be careful and handle these items with care, accidents do happen. In the event of an emergency or an incident in the lab, personnel should know exactly what to do.

Here are some scenarios to consider: If you are accidentally stuck with a needle, then what is the 1st thing that you should do?

If you notice an employee passed out on the floor of the lab, then what is the first thing that you should do? If you have a chemical or radiological spill, what should you do?



The EHSO Research Safety Bldg Liaisons have posted the “Just In Time”: Guide To Campus Emergencies

The guide is located on the inside of all laboratory exit doors, and it is your one-stop shop for phone numbers and emergency response procedures for the many different types of campus emergencies that may occur. This guide also provides instructions on how to handle major spills and minor spills that may occur in the lab. For an online version of the guide, visit CEPAR’s website <http://www.emory.edu/home/CEPAR/>

A **minor spill** can be contained and cleaned up without assistance from EHSO. Lab personnel should refer to the material’s Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for appropriate cleanup procedures. Lab personnel can also access the [MSDS Database](#) via the EHSO website.

A **major spill** cannot be handled without assistance from EHSO or emergency personnel. If a major spill occurs, then someone from the lab must contact EHSO as soon as possible. During normal business hours, EHSO personnel can be reached by dialing the main office number 404-727-5922. After hours, lab personnel must contact the Emory Police by dialing 911 from any campus phone or 404-727-6111.

In the event of an exposure, employees must decontaminate the affected area before reporting to medical attention. Link to access the STARS Incident Reporting website (http://www.ehso.emory.edu/emergency_how_to_report_an_accident.htm).



In the event of a sharps injury, such as a needlestick, employees must wash the area with warm water and soap for 15 minutes.



For skin exposures, employees will need to use the Emergency shower. Contaminated clothing must be removed, if necessary.



For eye exposure, employees will need to use the Emergency eyewash. Employees must flush their eyes for 15 minutes.

After administering first aid, lab personnel will need to report to Employee Health services for a medical evaluation. If someone in the lab is injured and requires immediate medical attention, personnel in the lab will need to dial 911 from a campus phone. During regular Business Hours, if the incident requires immediate medical attention, then report to the nearest Emory Employee Health Services.

Emory Main Campus: 1362 Clifton road, Room HB53.

Emory Midtown campus: WW Orr Bldg, 6th floor.

After hours, employees should report to the University Hospital's Emergency

Whether the incident is minor requiring medical attention or not, you will need to ensure that you report the incident through **STARS**. **STARS** is the University's method for reporting accidents and injuries that occur in the workplace. Employees can use the following link to access the STARS Incident Reporting website (http://www.ehso.emory.edu/emergency_how_to_report_an_accident.htm).

Building Liaisons

Each building has been assigned an EHS Specialist to assist with any questions/concerns you may have.

- Dionna Thomas 404-727-4673
Woodruff, Woodruff Extension, & Winship
- Meagan Parrott 404-712-9480
Dental, Medical Office Tower, Emory Midtown, School of Public Health (CNR/GCR), & Rollins
- Steve Arehart 404-727-4171
Clinic B, Pediatrics, North Decatur, Carlos Museum, Yerkes, Hope Clinic, Wesley Woods, Briarcliff Campus, & Anthropology
- Rodrick Esaw 404-727-1348
Whitehead, Math & Science, Emerson, Oxford College, & Atwood

Notice

- ◇ This newsletter is a tool to help fulfill a legal requirement for ongoing safety training.
- ◇ Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that individuals in their area have read and understood the information that applies to their area.
- ◇ The signed newsletter should be placed into the PIs EHSO Binder.

Signature indicates: I have read and I understand the information in this issue of Lab Rat Newsletter. Use an additional sheet of paper for more signatures, if needed and attach to this document.

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