



BIOSAFETY LEVEL 2

Example organisms: Hepatitis B virus, Streptococcus, Herpes virus, Plasmodium, Salmonella, Hepatitis C virus, Shigella

HAZARDS	Potential Hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infection can cause low to moderate severity disease. • Treatment is usually available, or host immune system can control infection. • Commonly transmitted via ingestion, mucous membranes, and skin. • Aerosol-producing procedures and sharps use introduce extra hazards.
HAZARD CONTROLS	Medical Surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Researchers who work with human materials must take part in Bloodborne Pathogens Program. • Report all exposures to laboratory supervisor and EH&S.
	Storage and Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store securely in areas or equipment marked with biohazard symbol. • Use primary and secondary containment to transport outside of laboratory. • Check with EH&S before shipping samples.
	Engineering Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eyewash, safety shower, and sink required in immediate work area. • Work in a biological safety cabinet during aerosol-producing procedures and procedures involving large volumes and/or high concentrations.
	Work Practice Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control access to the laboratory when biohazardous materials are in use. • Wash hands after working with biohazards and before leaving laboratory. • No eating, drinking, smoking, handling contact lenses, applying cosmetics, or storing food in the laboratory. • Implement safe sharps practices. • Minimize aerosolization whenever possible. • Decontaminate work surfaces and equipment with appropriate disinfectant after completion of work and after any spill. • Remove any animals or plants not associated with work being performed.
	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	<p>Minimum PPE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fastened lab coat, safety glasses, nitrile gloves <p>Risk of splashes or sprays, add:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety goggles, mask, or face shield <p>Remove PPE before leaving the laboratory.</p>
	Waste Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autoclave for 30 minutes at 121 °C and 15 psi OR • Collect in biohazard box for incineration OR • Chemically treat with 20% bleach for 30 minutes
	OTHER	Training
	Questions	Contact Environmental Health and Safety at 202-885-2007.
	Additional Guidelines	Review laboratory-specific procedures.