

**A. The occupational health and safety program for all personnel involved in animal care and/or use is as follows:**

Indiana State University adheres to the regulations and guidelines of all government agencies having jurisdiction over safety in the workplace and health of staff and students. ISU's Office of Environmental Safety is responsible for the overall management of the occupational health and safety programs for ISU personnel. The Occupational Health Program for Animal Exposure (OHPAE) applies to all personnel (including employees and qualified students) in direct contact with animals, animal tissue, or animal by-products and engaged in research at Indiana State University., ISU's IACAUC and BioSafety Committee require occupational health training for research personnel with direct animal contact as part of research protocol approvals. Current training elements consist of online training through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) program used by ISU for research compliance. The specific modules currently used include the Occupational Health and Safety component of the basic animal research training and the Animal Biosafety module. The Office of Environmental Safety also provides specific laboratory safety training, and Principle Investigators provide research-specific training for those involved in the research protocol.

ISU's OHPAE, includes:

(1) a centralized process for enrollment in the OHPAE for all personnel (including employees and qualified students) in direct contact with animals, animal tissue, or animal by-products engaged in research at Indiana State University;

(2) a centralized review of the Animal User Health Screening Questionnaire, which includes a health professional review. Specifically, ISU will be working with Dr. Randy Stevens of Union Hospital's Center for Occupational Health. Dr. Stevens has a long-standing relationship with ISU in the area of occupational health and safety. Special emphasis on the development of procedures for pregnant and immunosuppressed personnel is available. In addition, affected personnel may utilize the Center for Occupational Health to receive all required immunizations and vaccinations.

(3) a records management process to ensure compliance with all federal, state, and local laws involving protection of health information.

(4) additional levels of occupational health and safety education and training conducted by the Office of Environmental Safety and coordinated by ISU's Office of Sponsored Programs. In addition to the online CITI training, ISU provides specific training programs related to zoonoses, allergies, and other hazards, including rabies, hantavirus, salmonella, and animal bites (including venomous snakebites). These risks will be

minimized through a combination of education, training, and clearly defined safety procedures.

ISU OHPAE is based on hazard identification and risk assessment:

1. All new university personnel and students involved in laboratory research are required to attend a laboratory safety training session administered by ISU's Office of Environmental Safety and to complete appropriate online CITI training modules. In addition to general safety, the training for personnel involved in animal research addresses the environmental health and safety issues that are unique to personnel involved in animal care and/or use. This is the responsibility of the PI with support from OES. For those involved in research in the field, additional safety training will be required.
2. Personnel who are not involved in animal care and/or use but nevertheless need to enter areas when animals are housed or used (e.g. personnel involved in building maintenance and security) are informed of safety concerns and trained by animal care staff.
3. A medical history questionnaire ("The Animal User Health Screening Questionnaire") is requested of all personnel with direct contact with animals, animal tissue, or animal by-product. The completed questionnaire is submitted to Union Hospital's Center for Occupational Health. Submission of the questionnaire also triggers enrollment in the OHPAE. This questionnaire specifically warns those individuals who have allergies, are immunosuppressed, or may be pregnant of the dangers associated with the handling of animals. Individuals have the right to waive participation in the OHPAE, but before they can participate in handling of animals they must provide a written certification by their physician of choice; such individuals will be provided with the Animal User Health Screening Questionnaire in order for the physician to make an informed evaluation. Individuals are instructed that, if in the future they continue to have exposure to animals and would like to participate in the University's Animal Health Screening Program, they may do so at any time.
4. Semi-annual reviews of the Occupational Health Program for Animal Exposure will be carried by the IACUC.
5. ISU's Animal Care staff employees are required to enroll in the OHPAE program and to maintain current tetanus immunization and report any allergic reactions (e.g. hives, asthma). ISU utilizes the services of the Center for Occupational Health at Union Hospital for any specific allergen or other health concerns. Animal Care employees, as employees of the University, are also educated about work-place hazards, laboratory safety, and will work closely with the Office of Environmental Safety.

6. ISU, as part of safety requirements in the IACUC research protocol review, requires certification that researchers working with potentially rabies- infected animals have current prophylactic vaccinations. Researchers and other personnel will also be provided with information about potential zoonoses. Where there is a known potential for exposure to zoonotic organisms, precautions to prevent transmission are required to be addressed in the protocol submitted to the IACUC. Researchers must sign certification that they have researched current information for and informed the IACUC about, the known zoonoses for their study organism. Researchers are encouraged to review this information with the Office of Environmental Safety before submission of the protocol. These certifications are on the Protocol application form.
7. To reduce exposure to allergens, ISU continues to institute appropriate safety measures, such as increased ventilation and the availability of personal protective equipment (e.g. laboratory coats, shoe covers, and respiratory protection). These safety measures will also be reviewed in the OHPAE education and training program.
8. With submission of an IACUC protocol, the researcher certifies any allergies, accident, animal bites, or scratches will be reported to the Office of Environmental Safety and/or the Workers Compensation Coordinator in the Office of Human Resources. Researchers are also required to provide this information directly to personnel involved in the research at regular intervals during the research experience.
9. As part of the occupational safety review of animal use protocols, the researchers, in collaboration with Workers Compensation Coordinator in the office of Human Resources, will identify local health provider options to be utilized in cases of injury. If the injury occurs within the Terre Haute area, all personnel are required to follow the guidelines set forth by the University's Office of Human Resources, as it relates to workplace injuries. Records of injuries, illnesses, and allergies related to direct animal contact will be kept on file for all individuals working with vertebrate animals. All PIs should identify, prior to travel, all appropriate medical care providers. In all cases, should an injury occur, the Workers Compensation Coordinator in the Office of Human Resources must be notified as soon as possible.
10. No primate research is carried out at this institution.
11. No venomous snake research is carried out at this institution.