

The background of the slide is a collage of laboratory-related images. On the left, a person wearing blue gloves is using a pipette. In the center, a hand is holding a microscope. On the right, there is a petri dish containing a grid of small, dark spots. The entire background is overlaid with a semi-transparent grey layer. The text is centered on this layer. The title 'Biosafety Month 2020' is in a large, orange, serif font. Below it, the text 'Environmental Health & Safety' and 'Biosafety Office' is in a smaller, white, serif font. At the bottom, the name 'Shane Gillooly' is also in a white, serif font. The top right corner of the slide has a green and orange geometric shape.

# Biosafety Month 2020

Environmental Health & Safety  
Biosafety Office

Shane Gillooly

# Outline

Team Introduction

Mission / Goals

Committees

Biosafety Month

Program Development

- BioRaft Updates
- IBC Scope
- Website
- Signage
- Documents
- Training
- Future Development

Questions

# Environmental Health & Safety

FACILITIES OPERATIONS & PLANNING  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH AND SAFETY

Services Resources Contact Us About Us

HOME AAA

Welcome  
Environmental Health and Safety is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for the University of Miami's faculty, staff, and students.  
[LEARN MORE >](#)

COVID-19 UPDATE [CLICK HERE](#)

REPORT SAFETY CONCERNS [CLICK HERE](#)

PREPARE.MIAMI.EDU UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Biological Safety Employee Health Fire Safety Environmental Protection & Hazardous Materials

Industrial Hygiene & Air Quality Laboratory Safety Laser Safety Radiation Control

- Biosafety & Lab Safety
- Laser Safety
- Hazardous Materials Management
- Industrial Hygiene & Air Quality
- Fire Safety
- Radiation Safety
- Employee Health

# EHS Leadership



← Executive Director – Jennifer Laine

• Hazmat Manager – Vaughan Munro →



← Industrial Hygienist – Raul Garcia

• Radiation Safety Officer – Edward Pombier →



← Employee Health Manager – Sandra Chen-Walta

• Biosafety Officer – Shane Gillooly

# Biosafety Office



- Shane Gillooly
  - Biosafety Officer




- Melanie Peapell
  - Biosafety Specialist & Laser Safety Officer
    - Dangerous Goods Shipping Coordinator



- Angel Rayo
  - Biosafety Specialist
    - Lab Inspection Coordinator

# Mission

- As depicted on our website:



Welcome to the University of Miami Biosafety Office

Our mission is to provide resources and expertise regarding the assessment and control of biological hazards to all UM research stakeholders across labs, clinics, classrooms, and facilities.

# Goals

- Words we live by:
  - Service
  - Collaboration
  - Standards
  - Reflection
- Upholding DIRECCT Values
  - Diversity
  - Integrity
  - Responsibility
  - Excellence
  - Compassion
  - Creativity
  - Teamwork
- Safety and Compliance is important to UM leadership
  - Investments have been made to benefit UM

# Biological Safety Committees

- Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)

- Contact: IBCsupport@miami.edu
- Phone: 305-243-2311
- <https://www.uresearch.miami.edu/uresearch-services/ibc/index.html>

- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

- Contact: IACUCsupport@miami.edu
- Phone: 305-243-2311
- <https://www.uresearch.miami.edu/uresearch-services/iacuc/index.html>

- Institutional Review Board (IRB)

- Contact: hsro@miami.edu
- Phone : 305-243-3195
- <http://hsro.uresearch.miami.edu>

- <https://www.ehs.miami.edu/services/biological-safety/protocols/index.html>

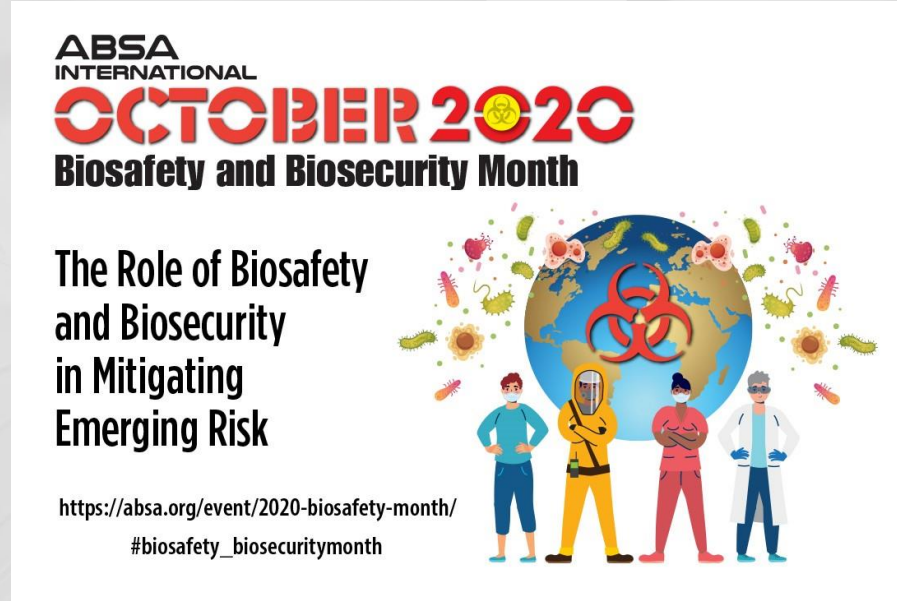


# Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)

- The mission of the IBC Committee (IBC) is to ensure that all research involving recombinant DNA, synthetic nucleotides, infectious agents (pathogens), biological toxins, nanotechnology, or select agents is classified at the appropriate biosafety level
- Contact: [IBCsupport@miami.edu](mailto:IBCsupport@miami.edu)
- <https://www.uresearch.miami.edu/uresearch-services/ibc/index.html>
- Erin Kobetz
  - Responsible Official
- Pantelis Tsoulfas
  - IBC Chair
- Ellen Kapsalis
  - Director of Compliance
- Lizzeth Meza
  - Senior Regulatory Analyst

# Biosafety & Biosecurity Month

- ABSA sponsored event for month of October



- Please consider tagging all related social media posts with #biosafety\_biosecuritymonth
- <https://absa.org/event/2020-biosafety-month/>

# Biosafety & Biosecurity Month

Dear Colleagues,

Each fall, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) focuses on some aspect of biosafety for individuals engaged in research in the life sciences. This year's theme is *The Role of Biosafety and Biosecurity in Mitigating Risk*. Since the beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically altered our world. In both our professional and personal lives, we have all been asked to make significant changes to mitigate the risks associated with this pandemic. It has become increasingly clear that tackling the pandemic and mitigating its effects requires teamwork and cooperation. Biosafety and biosecurity professionals have played a critical role in helping mitigate the effects of the pandemic and have been called upon to work on new and challenging problems to protect our communities and the workplace. Remember that a safety culture begins with the Principal Investigator (PI). By embracing and encouraging safe attitudes and behaviors, you show that safety is valued in your laboratory. As a PI, you have the responsibility to ensure that the lab operates safely and that personnel are informed of the potential risks, wear the appropriate PPE and are adequately trained.

- Enforce the current UM social distancing policies and safety practices when working in the lab environment. Be mindful of reducing population density, wearing masks at all time in shared environments, and washing your hands routinely. Practice proper decontamination and disposal procedures and donning (applying) and doffing (removing) personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Report all laboratory incidents promptly to Environmental Health and Safety (EHS). This is a requirement of both NIH and UM. It is UM's policy that each incident that results in an injury, exposure, or severe illness to faculty, staff, or students be appropriately documented and reported. Exposures must be addressed with an appropriate immediate response, the initiation of first aid, and followed by medical follow-up if needed. EHS must be notified immediately at 305-243-3267 and the IBC office notified at [IBCSupport@miami.edu](mailto:IBCSupport@miami.edu) within 24 hours.
- Review your *Biohazard Exposure Response SOPs* or *Biological Review Assessment forms* associated with IBC and IRB approvals to ensure that all research personnel know the SOPs for the lab and what to do in the event of a biological accident/exposure in the work place. For work-related injuries or illnesses, it is essential that appropriate safety procedures be followed. By reviewing these SOPs with each laboratory worker, and placing it in a prominent place in your lab, you can ensure that all individuals will respond quickly and effectively in the event of an exposure.
- Check the safety signage in, around, and outside of your lab to ensure it is up to date and still relevant. New signage can be downloaded from the [EHS Biosafety web page](#) or can be obtained from the Biosafety Office directly.
- Update your Biosafety, Bloodborne Pathogen, and Laboratory Safety trainings for the entire lab. EHS will have several open sessions during the month of October. Contact EHS at 305-243-3400 for more information.
- EHS has added a new Biosafety Officer, Shane Gillooly. Shane joins Biosafety Specialists Melanie Peapell and Angel Rayo. You can email the Biosafety Team directly, or indirectly at [biosafety@miami.edu](mailto:biosafety@miami.edu). For assistance or guidance on anything in your lab, you can start by checking out the new Biosafety webpage located on the EHS website.

Let's build a biosafety culture together,

Erin Kobetz, PhD, MPH  
Institutional Official  
Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Scholarship



ABSA  
INTERNATIONAL  
OCTOBER 2020  
Biosafety Month

Promoting a Culture of  
Biosafety & Responsibility

## 6 Easy Ways to Promote Safety Culture at the University of Miami



Adhere to  
Pandemic  
Guidelines  
in the Lab



Report  
Exposures,  
Injuries &  
Near Misses



Review  
Biosafety  
Protocols  
& SOPs



Post New  
Biosafety  
Signage



Take  
Biosafety  
Training

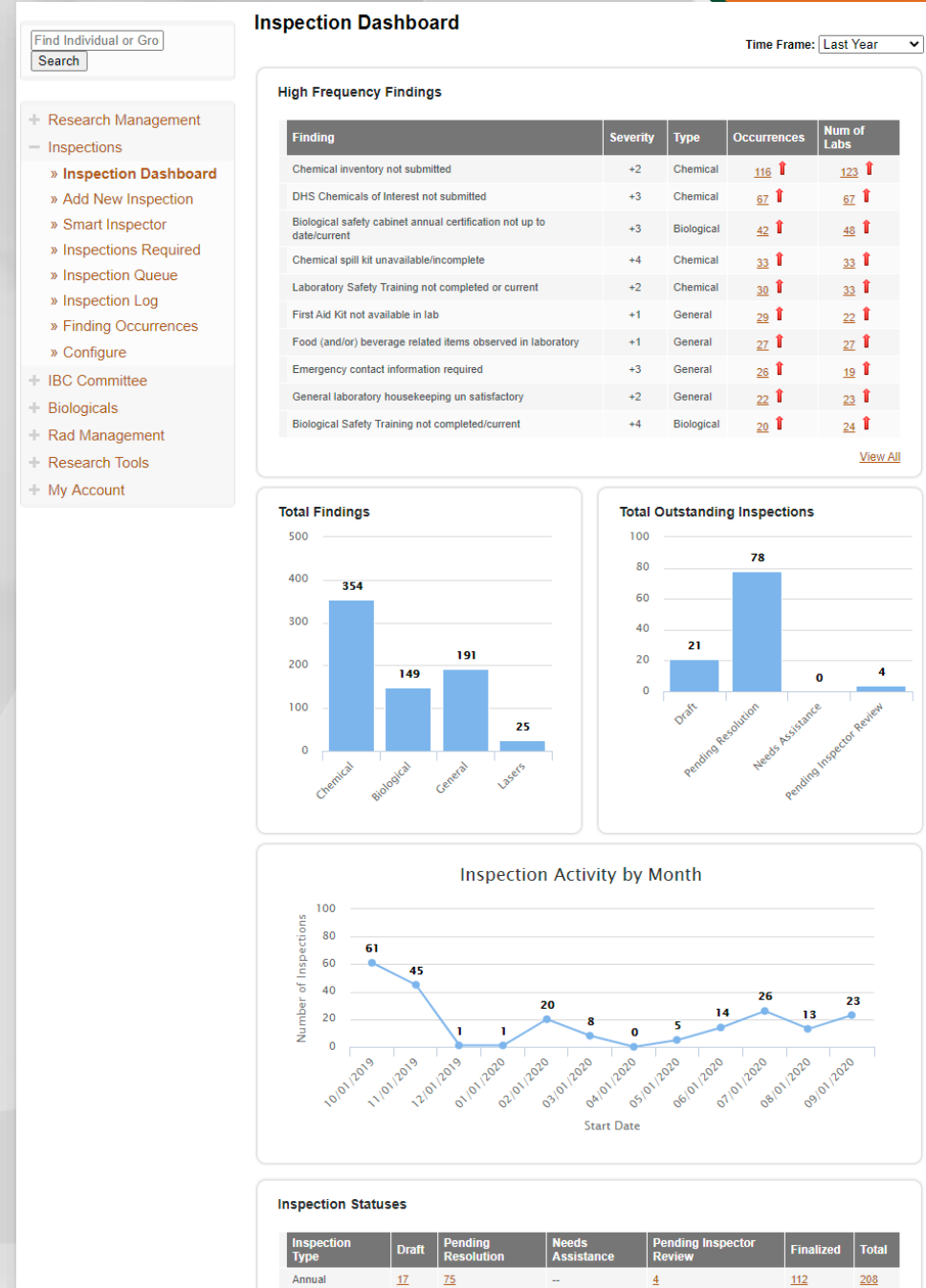


Get to  
Know Your  
Biosafety  
Team!

[ehs.miami.edu](http://ehs.miami.edu)

# BioRaft Applications

- Lab Inspections
- EHS Notifications
  - Emergent Weather
- Administrative Data Storage
  - Labs, locations, departments, etc.
- Radiation Management
- Soon – IBC Applications



# IBC in BioRaft

- BioRaft module for IBC applications
  - Modernize review process
  - Umbrella applications
- IBC purview expanding
  - All biological research captured
  - More holistic capturing of lab work
  - More holistic adherence to regulations

View Edit Dashboard Members Bio

Bio | Biological Summary | Projects | Cell Lines | Tissues | Plants | Microbes | Biological Toxins | rDNA | NIH Guidelines

## IBC Support Testing Lab Biologicals

There are changes to the biological usage summary that have not been certified. Please notify the PI when all changes are ready to be submitted for review. [View changes since 09/24/2020](#)

To view all changes to this biological usage summary since last approval, view [Amendment Summary](#).

### Summary [\[edit\]](#)

Principal Investigator: [IBC Support Test Account](#)

Delegate(s): [Laine, Jennifer Meza, Lizzeth Kapsalis, Ellen Koncza, Elisabeth M Perez, Michael A](#)

Assigned Biosafety Level:  
Review Frequency: 3 Years

Dual Use Research of Concern: No  
Ships Biomaterials: Yes

	Number
Projects	3
Viral Vector Forms	2
Pathogen Forms	1
Cell Lines	1
Tissues	1
Plants	0
Microbes	0
Biological Toxins	0
rDNA	4

[View or Update Biological Usage Summary](#)

### Biological Materials [\[edit\]](#)

Primate Materials

- Human Body Fluids
- Human Cell Lines
- Human Organs
- Human Tissues
- Non-Human Primate Source Materials
- Non-Human Primates

Non-Primate Materials

- Amphibians
- Arthropods
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- Fish
- Lab Animal Cell Lines (Non-Primate)
- Lab Animal Source Materials (Non-Primate)
- Lab Animal Tissues (Non-Primate)
- Lab Animals (Non-Primate)
- Non-Pathogenic Microorganisms
- Pathogenic Microorganisms
- Plants

Other Biological Source Materials

- Biological Toxins
- Infectious Proteins
- Mutagenic Agents
- Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleotides
- Select Agent Biological Toxins
- Viral Vectors

### Registration Summary

Submission:  **Amended Awaiting Review** [\[change status\]](#)

Registration Started: 09/10/2020  
PI Last Certified: 09/24/2020 [Download PDF | View](#)  
Registration Approved: 09/22/2020  
Research Last Confirmed: 09/24/2020  
Next Review Date: 09/15/2023

[View Registration History and Download PDFs](#)

### Submission Requests

[Request Clarification/Modification](#)

[Submission Request/Reminder](#)

[Delegate to a Lab Member](#)

[Request PI Certification](#)

Last Request Sent: 09/22/2020  
[View All Past Requests](#)

# New Website

Better than ever!

**Biological Safety**

Welcome to the University of Miami Biosafety Office

Our mission is to provide resources and expertise regarding the assessment and control of biological hazards to all UM research stake holders across labs, clinics, classrooms, and facilities.

**General Office Contact**

[biosafety@miami.edu](mailto:biosafety@miami.edu)  
305-243-3269

**Biosafety Officer**  
Shane Gillooly  
786-797-0387

**Biosafety Specialist, Laser Safety Officer**  
Dangerous Goods Shipping Coordinator  
Melanie Peapell  
305-389-9931

**Biosafety Specialist**  
Lab Inspection Coordinator  
Angel Rayo  
786-351-9885

We offer a variety of services to our campus researchers and clinicians as outlined in the links below. Please reach out to us if there is anything further we can do for your lab!

**Biological Emergency**  
Exposure & Spill  
Biological Emergency

**Training**

**Protocol Approval**

**Biological Emergency**  
Exposure & Spill  
Biological Emergency

**Training**

**Protocol Approval**

**Shipments**

**Inspections**

**Equipment**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Additional Resources**

• <http://ehs.miami.edu>

# New Signage & Postings

## Laboratory Gloves: Do's & Don'ts

Do's	Doffing	Don'ts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wear gloves when working in the lab</li> <li>Always remove gloves when leaving the lab</li> <li>Select glove material appropriate to the task, consider the hazard:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biological, Chemical, Radioactive, Sharp, Extreme Temperatures</li> <li>Consult a glove material guide if needed</li> </ul> </li> <li>Check the glove for holes or damage prior to use</li> <li>Change gloves when contaminated or damaged</li> <li>Dispose of your used gloves in an appropriate waste container               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Glove waste must be segregated on hazard</li> </ul> </li> <li>Always wash your hands after removing gloves</li> </ul>	<p>1 Grasp Outside Glove</p> <p>2 Peel 1<sup>st</sup> Inside Out</p> <p>3 Ball Up 1<sup>st</sup> Glove</p> <p>4 Put Fingers Inside 2<sup>nd</sup> Glove</p> <p>5 Peel 2<sup>nd</sup> Inside Out</p> <p>6 Dispose Gloves</p> <p>7 Wash Hands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do <b>not</b> reuse disposable gloves               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Afterall, they're disposable!</li> </ul> </li> <li>Do <b>not</b> touch doors or door knobs               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When going between labs, use the "One Glove" technique by holding your sample with your gloved hand while touching the door with your non-gloved hand</li> </ul> </li> <li>Do <b>not</b> touch common equipment or surfaces with gloves, unless signage is present that indicates PPE is needed</li> </ul>

Environmental Health & Safety  
ehs.miami.edu

## Sharps Safety @ the University of Miami

biosafety@miami.edu  
Biosafety Office  
EH&S

**Do**

- Dispose of sharps in a designated container
- Dispose of the sharps container when it is ¾ full
- Keep a sharps container on hand
- Make no effort to recap when disposing

**Don't**

- Bend or manipulate needles
- Leave sharps around unprotected
- Dispose of sharps in regular trash
- Recap needles unless your procedure requires it

*The One-Handed Scoop Technique\**  
*\*This technique should only be used when required by protocol*

STOP  
No Gloves on Door Knobs!

## EXPOSURES & NEEDLESTICKS

**STOP → WASH → CALL**

...all work in lab

...for **15 Minutes!**

EHS  
Employee Health  
305.243.3267

Step 1: Scoop needle with one hand  
Step 2: Secure cap\* with other hand  
\*Secure by the sides, not near the top

**NEVER RE-CAP A NEEDLE USING BOTH HANDS**

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Environmental Health & Safety

### Emergency Numbers

Dial 911 from Cell Phones or Dial 9-911 from UM Phones

**Important Numbers**

Public Safety Phone Numbers  
Coral Gables – 305-284-6666  
Medical – 305-243-6000  
RSMAS – 305-421-7991

Employee Health – 305-299-4684 (24 hours)  
Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) – 305-243-3400  
ehs.miami.edu

### Immediate Action

For incidents that pose a risk to self/Building/Equipment inside the lab or is a risk to persons outside the lab space:

- Pull Fire Alarm and Evacuate Building
- Dial 911 (9-911 from UM Phones)
- Stay close to identify yourself to first responders

### Non-Immediate Action

Incidents that are not immediately life threatening

- Evacuate and avoid area
- Contact Facilities
- Contact EHS – 305-243-3400

## STOP

### Chemical/Biological Exposures

...exposure that is life threatening:

**Inhalation Exposure**

- Leave lab and move victim to fresh air
- Call 911 (9-911 from UM) and report
- If chemical is known, print 3 copies of SDS

## No Gloves on Door Knobs!

Environmental Health & Safety  
ehs.miami.edu

Emergency, exposure  
...nce

Ident  
...or 305-299-4684 (after hours) to report  
Employee Health  
Ident Report Form to biosafety@miami.edu

# New Signage & Postings

## Biological Spills

For Routine Spills in the Laboratory

biosafety@miami.edu  
Biosafety Office  
EH&S

1. Notify others and leave the room, post signage to prevent entry
2. Remove contaminated clothing/PPE, address exposures
3. For assistance or Risk Group 2 spills, call EHS at 305-243-3400
4. Wait 30 minutes to allow aerosols to settle prior to entry
5. Cover spill areas with absorbent material
6. Pour liquid disinfectant from outside in
7. Allow a 20 minute contact time to achieve disinfection
8. Dispose as biohazardous waste
9. Clean area again and surfaces around spill, repeating steps 5-8
10. Notify users that spill cleanup complete
11. Remove PPE and wash hands

Visit ehs.miami.edu for more posters, SOPs, and assistance

## STOP

### No Gloves on Door

## STOP

### No Gloves on Door Knobs!

Environmental Health & Safety ehs.miami.edu

## Biosafety Cabinets

### Safety & Maintenance

**Do**

- Get the cabinet certified annually
- Decontaminate the cabinet, don't rely on UV
- Disinfect all materials coming out
- Separate clean and dirty
- Allow time for air curtains to establish
- Work at least 4-6 inches inside the cabinet

**Don't**

- Block the grills or overcrowd the cabinet
- Put large equipment in the cabinet
- Work in BSCs that haven't been certified
- Absolutely NO use of open flames
- Disrupt the airflow
- Forget to turn off the UV light

### Remember...

- Protection differs depending on the class of BSC
- BSCs must be recertified **annually** and when relocated
- Air curtains are easily disturbed, there should be minimal foot traffic nearby while working
- BSCs must be professionally decontaminated when relocating, then recertified

### Spills in the Biosafety Cabinet

1. Keep the BSC on and running, change PPE
2. If assistance is needed, close sash & call EHS at 305-243-3400
3. Cover spill area with absorbent material
4. Pour liquid disinfectant onto spill, moving outside in
5. Allow appropriate contact time for the chosen disinfectant
6. Collect absorbed waste and dispose of as biohazardous waste
7. Decon all surfaces in BSC and grill pans if applicable
8. Dispose of as biohazardous waste
9. Allow BSC to run for 10 minutes before resuming work

ABSA INTERNATIONAL Biosafety Month 2020

## Promoting a Culture of Biosafety & Responsibility

### Ways to Promote Safety Culture at the University of Miami

- Adhere to Pandemic Guidelines in the Lab
- Report Exposures, Injuries & Near Misses
- Review Biosafety Protocols & SOPs
- Post New Biosafety Signage
- Take Biosafety Training
- Get to Know Your Biosafety Team!

ehs.miami.edu

FACILITIES OPERATIONS & PLANNING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

ABSA INTERNATIONAL

## Your Gloves!

### No Gloves on Door Knobs!

Environmental Health & Safety ehs.miami.edu



# New Documents, SOPs, Templates

## Biological Ancillary Review Assessment Form

- This form is part of a required review from the Biosafety Office for any IRB protocol involving the introduction of biological materials or the collection of human specimens. It may also be required by labs falling outside of the purview of the IBC but still requiring biosafety review.
- This form is both a review tool to assess/develop the safety practices of the lab, as well as a log at researchers outlining some of the safety standards and procedures associated with this protocol.
- All labs must complete the first page, sections 1-4, as well as the digital signature at the end. If it involves risk group 2 organisms or higher, the entire form must be completed.
- Please submit to the Biosafety Office at [bsosafev@umiami.edu](mailto:bsosafev@umiami.edu) for review when complete.

Section 1: General Protocol Information			
PI Name:	PI Email:		
Protocol Title:			
Lab Building:	Room(s):	Biosafety Level:	
BSC type: N/A	BSC Lab Room Location:		

Section 2: Lab Members			
List the researchers in the lab who will be involved with any part of this portion of the project, include their corresponding training dates.			
Name	Biosafety	Biohazard Pathogens	Lab Saf
PI name / add researchers	Date Completed	Date Completed	Date C

Section 3: Pre-Screening Questions	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. This project involves the introduction of foreign biological materials.
<input type="checkbox"/>	1a. The materials used are infectious, toxic, or otherwise risk group 2 or higher.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Human specimens, such as blood, or other biological materials are being collected.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2a. The lab will be manipulating or processing these samples to any extent.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2b. Specimens will be collected, but shipped to and processed by another lab.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2c. Specimens are coming from patients known to be or suspected of carrying a disease.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Specify: _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Materials in this lab are genetically modified, transgenic, or otherwise synthetic.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Biological materials/specimens will be shipped to another facility.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Specify designated shipper: _____ Shipping training completion: Date Completed _____

Section 4: Protocol / Pathogen Overview	
Type of Material	Specify Genus Species or Disease within Specimen
In lay terms, please provide an overview of the protocol. Be sure to list the purpose of and how each step above is being used, highlighting the aims of the research, and briefly describing how this will be accomplished.	

If any of the materials listed above are Risk Group 2 or higher, please proceed with the rest of the application may scroll to Section 7, sign, and submit this application as complete. If your protocol requires an IBC approval, you may sign the form at Section 7 and submit.

Revision Date: 05-03-20

## UM RESEARCHER INCIDENT REPORT FORM FOR POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS BIOLOGICAL AGENTS

Incident reports should be filled out and submitted as soon as possible after accident response have been followed (summarized below).

Researcher Name:	Phone:	Email:	PI:
Describe the experiment (if applicable)			
Incident Date:	Incident Time:		
Incident Location(s) Building:			
Room #(s)			

How many individuals were involved? \_\_\_\_\_

1. Describe the Incident (who, what, when, where)

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Nature of the incident

2.1 Specify the biohazard/type of material/animal you were exposed to, including \_\_\_\_\_

2.2 Did this incident involve recombinant DNA technology?

- Recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids including recombinant cells, agent
- Transgenic animal
- Recombinant agents used for human gene transfer
- Infectious agents created with recombinant gene transfer techniques
- Attenuated agents created with recombinant gene transfer techniques

2.3 Was the agent infectious?

- No
- Yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

2.4 Describe the nature of the exposure:

- Splash to eyes, nose, or mouse
- Animal bite



Environmental Health and Safety (EHS)  
1400 NW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 405  
305-243-3400

## Laboratory Inspection Checklist

- Print the form and complete the inspection by walking through the lab and observing lab activities. For all "No," develop and implement a corrective action plan.
- Notes:
  - This form is electronically fileable.
  - CTI stands for corrected at time of inspection
  - NA stands for not applicable.

Please have all laboratory personnel (including the Principal Investigator) answer the following questions. Thank you.

1. House Keeping	Yes	No	NA	CTI	C
Lab is under restricted access (i.e., doors are locked, doors are kept closed).					
Equipment and materials are not crowding and obstructing the means of egress (corridors, doors, etc.). Lab is free from slip, trip or fall hazards.					
Lab sinks are equipped with soap and paper towels for handwashing.					
Lab floor, bench tops and furniture are easily cleanable (i.e., can be wiped down) and uncluttered to allow for safe work practices.					
Food/drinks/cosmetics/lotions are not present in the lab.					
Items stored at least 18" below the sprinkler heads to allow for safe function of building fire sprinkler systems.					

2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Yes	No	NA	CTI	C
Lab coats, safety glasses and disposable nitrile gloves are ALWAYS worn while working in the lab.					
Face Shield and thermo gloves are available and worn while working extreme temperatures (ex: -50°C freezers liquid nitrogen).					
Lab members remove gloves before leaving the lab and opening doors. Disposable gloves are NEVER reused.					
Closed toed shoes and long pants/skirts are ALWAYS worn in the lab. Examples of inappropriate attire include (sandals, torn jeans, and ballet flats).					
Lab members who use the (NIOSH) respirators, have had the Annual Respirator Fit Test administered by EHS.					

3. Signage / Lab Postings	Yes	No	NA	CTI	C
Doors leading into the lab(s) are labeled with appropriate hazard symbols (biohazard, radiation, NFPA 704 diamonds, etc.)					
The following are posted near the lab entrance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency Contact Card with current contact info</li> <li>Select Bio Agent with recommended PPE</li> </ul>					
Lab freezers and refrigerators are labeled with "No Food or Drink Allowed," "No Flammables" (if appropriate) and the biohazard symbol (if used to store biological/infectious material).					

1

## University of Miami Spill Procedure Standard Operating Procedures

Biological spills at the University of Miami are classified as either major or minor. A major spill is a spill event that cannot be handled safely without the assistance of EHS emergency response. A minor spill is a spill event that can be handled safely without the assistance of EHS emergency response. During a biological spill, the primary concern for local research staff is potential for inhalation of an aerosol. Thus, spills occurring inside of a biosafety cabinet (BSC) are easier to manage as the BSC will contain generated aerosols created by the spill. Therefore, spills are addressed by researchers based on whether they are major or minor, and whether they take place inside the biosafety cabinet or outside of the biosafety cabinet.

### Major Spills Inside the Biosafety Cabinet

- Keep the BSC on.
- Close the sash of the BSC.
- Attend to injured or contaminated persons.
- Alert personnel in the area of the spill and post a sign on the BSC sash that indicates the nature of the spill.
- Call EHS (305-243-3400).
- EHS to arrange clean-up.

### Major Spills Outside the Biosafety Cabinet

- Avoid inhaling airborne materials while quickly leaving the room. Notify others to leave the room and close the door.
- Post a sign on the door indicating the nature and time of the spill.
- Remove contaminated clothing/PPE.
- Wash all exposed skin with soap and warm water.
- Call EHS (305-243-3400).
- EHS to arrange clean-up.

### Minor Spills Inside the Biosafety Cabinet

- Keep the BSC on.
- Change PPE.
- Cover spill area with absorbent material.
- Pour liquid disinfectant onto the absorbent material from the outside of the spill area, moving it away from the spill.
- Allow for appropriate contact time.
- Collect spill material and dispose of as biohazard waste.
- Spray/wipe walls, work surfaces, and equipment with disinfectant solution and allow for appropriate contact time before wiping up residue.
- Decontaminate grill pans if applicable.
- Dispose of all spill clean-up materials as biohazard waste.
- Allow for the BSC to run for at least 10 minutes after cleanup and before resuming work.
- Notify users that spill cleanup is complete.



Environmental Health and Safety  
Biosafety Office  
1400 NW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Dominion Tower, Suite 405  
Miami, Florida 33136 U.S.A.  
PHONE 305-243-3099  
FAX 305-243-3272

## Hurricane Season Emergency Preparation for Labs

Environmental Health & Safety  
Biosafety Office

In preparation of hurricane season and before every hurricane, there are a variety of lab specific considerations that must be addressed to both safety and responsibly preserve the contents within that lab. Review the tasks below and please reach out to the EHS Biosafety Office should you need any additional assistance.

### Securing Samples/Inventory

- Specimens and materials used for research must be properly stored and/or secured.
  - Clear benchtops of specimens.
  - Clear biosafety cabinets of specimens.
  - Check that compressed gas tanks are properly secured.
  - Keep chemicals segregated by hazard class.
  - Check chemical containers for integrity. Contact EHS for help with disposal of chemicals in damaged or impaired containers.
    - Chemicals, buffers, and liquids should not be stored on shelves above shoulder height.
  - Check the secondary containment around hazardous chemicals and waste. Replace if damaged.

### Electrical Concerns and Equipment

- Assume anything not on emergency power is likely to lose power during the event and act accordingly.
- Biosafety cabinets, fume hoods, and other types of hoods should be cleared out.
- During a power outage, conditioning is likely to halt for laboratory spaces. Plan for the additional heat load during the event and shut down non-essential equipment.
- Plan for power outages on computer by backing up data and intellectual property.
  - For paper based data, find appropriate/approved methods to digitally secure this information in the event of flooding.

### Lab Personnel

- Lab members should update their contact details in Workday.
  - Develop a lab/office contact list with phone numbers and email addresses to stay connected before, during, and after the event.
- Review the lab Business Continuity Plan, the Emergency Management communications and local emergency guidance.
- Report emergencies to 911, Public Safety, and/or EHS and/or 911.

# New Trainings

- New trainings in development
  - General Biosafety
  - Dangerous Goods Shipping Training
    - Complementary Hands on Biohazardous Shipping Training
- Trainings by request
- Future Development
  - Tailored versions of Biosafety
  - Recombinant DNA
  - Bloodborne Pathogens refresh



# Future Vision

- Aiming to address current gaps
  - Training Development
  - Biosafety Manual(s)
  - Better Animal Research Support



- Very receptive to ideas and critiques
- Collaborative spirit with research
- Service minded response

# Biosafety Month Recap

Dear Colleagues,

Each fall, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) focuses on some aspect of biosafety for individuals engaged in research in the life sciences. This year's theme is *The Role of Biosafety and Biosecurity in Mitigating Risk*. Since the beginning of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically altered our world. In both our professional and personal lives, we have all been asked to make significant changes to mitigate the risks associated with this pandemic. It has become increasingly clear that tackling the pandemic and mitigating its effects requires teamwork and cooperation. Biosafety and biosecurity professionals have played a critical role in helping mitigate the effects of the pandemic and have been called upon to work on new and challenging problems to protect our communities and the workplace. Remember that a safety culture begins with the Principal Investigator (PI). By embracing and encouraging safe attitudes and behaviors, you show that safety is valued in your laboratory. As a PI, you have the responsibility to ensure that the lab operates safely and that personnel are informed of the potential risks, wear the appropriate PPE and are adequately trained.

- Enforce the current UM social distancing policies and safety practices when working in the lab environment. Be mindful of reducing population density, wearing masks at all time in shared environments, and washing your hands routinely. Practice proper decontamination and disposal procedures and donning (applying) and doffing (removing) personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Report all laboratory incidents promptly to Environmental Health and Safety (EHS). This is a requirement of both NIH and UM. It is UM's policy that each incident that results in an injury, exposure, or severe illness to faculty, staff, or students be appropriately documented and reported. Exposures must be addressed with an appropriate immediate response, the initiation of first aid, and followed by medical follow-up if needed. EHS must be notified immediately at 305-243-3267 and the IBC office notified at [IBCSupport@miami.edu](mailto:IBCSupport@miami.edu) within 24 hours.
- Review your *Biohazard Exposure Response SOPs* or *Biological Review Assessment forms* associated with IBC and IRB approvals to ensure that all research personnel know the SOPs for the lab and what to do in the event of a biological accident/exposure in the work place. For work-related injuries or illnesses, it is essential that appropriate safety procedures be followed. By reviewing these SOPs with each laboratory worker, and placing it in a prominent place in your lab, you can ensure that all individuals will respond quickly and effectively in the event of an exposure.
- Check the safety signage in, around, and outside of your lab to ensure it is up to date and still relevant. New signage can be downloaded from the [EHS Biosafety web page](#) or can be obtained from the Biosafety Office directly.
- Update your Biosafety, Bloodborne Pathogen, and Laboratory Safety trainings for the entire lab. EHS will have several open sessions during the month of October. Contact EHS at 305-243-3400 for more information.
- EHS has added a new Biosafety Officer, Shane Gillooly. Shane joins Biosafety Specialists Melanie Peapell and Angel Rayo. You can email the Biosafety Team directly, or indirectly at [biosafety@miami.edu](mailto:biosafety@miami.edu). For assistance or guidance on anything in your lab, you can start by checking out the new Biosafety webpage located on the EHS website.

Let's build a biosafety culture together,

Erin Kobetz, PhD, MPH  
Institutional Official  
Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Scholarship



ABSA  
INTERNATIONAL  
OCTOBER 2020  
Biosafety Month

Promoting a Culture of  
Biosafety & Responsibility

## 6 Easy Ways to Promote Safety Culture at the University of Miami



Adhere to  
Pandemic  
Guidelines  
in the Lab



Report  
Exposures,  
Injuries &  
Near Misses



Review  
Biosafety  
Protocols  
& SOPs



Post New  
Biosafety  
Signage



Take  
Biosafety  
Training



Get to  
Know Your  
Biosafety  
Team!

[ehs.miami.edu](http://ehs.miami.edu)

# Questions

- Contact the Biosafety Office:

- 305-243-3269
- [biosafety@miami.edu](mailto:biosafety@miami.edu)

- Contact Shane directly:

- 786-797-0387
- [sxg1519@med.miami.edu](mailto:sxg1519@med.miami.edu)

- Visit our Website!

- <http://ehs.miami.edu>

