

COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
LABORATORY ANIMAL FACILITIES

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
for
NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

1.0 **PURPOSE:**

This SOP applies to all Researcher staff and LAF employees working in BSL 2 facility with this organism

2.0 **SCOPE:**

This SOP outlines the Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines when working with *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. Gonorrheal organisms are infectious exclusively to humans. The greatest risk maybe the direct contact of excreta on bedding to mucous membranes (eyes, mouth, cuts) *N. gonorrhoeae* is not a life threatening infection and the strains used are fully susceptible to antibiotics. No vaccine is available. The organism is not transmissible from mouse to mouse. Organisms do not persist in the environment for long periods of time, and are susceptible to common disinfectants. However all material and mice that are in contact with gonorrhea must be treated as potentially infectious.

3.0 **PROCEDURE:**

- 3.1 Personnel must enroll in the Occupational Health Medical Program at UB.
- 3.2 All work with this organism will be conducted in the BSL Level 2 Facility.
- 3.3 Standard entry, gowning, and personal hygiene procedures of BSL2 will be followed
- 3.4 NIOSH N95 face masks will be worn
- 3.5 Safety glasses will be worn in the animal holding room and when cage changing as an additional precaution.
- 3.6 Cages & bedding will be autoclaved prior to removal from BSL2.
- 3.7 After autoclaving, bedding will be discarded into Red Biohazard bags, and disposed as Certified Medical Waste.
- 3.8 Autoclaved cages, water-bottles, lids etc will be taken to the cagewash area and sanitized in a routine manner
- 3.9 All equipment and supplies must be autoclaved or disinfected with alcohol or 10% Bleach prior to removal from BSL2.
- 3.10 If a contaminated needle-stick or mucous membrane exposure occurs, follow **SOP #3.F.1: Exposure to Blood and Other Body Fluids, Bites, Scratches and Needle Punctures**
 - A Notify your supervisor
 - B Call ECMC 898-4153 and ask to see a doctor
 - C Inform workers compensation at 645-5000 X1025 and ask for Annette Lozo

- D After-hours, proceed to ECMC and explain your are enrolled in the OHMP at UB and you were hurt at work
 - E Medical attention should be sought within 24 hours of the exposure or injury
- 3.11 Carcasses must be treated as infectious and incinerated.