

Occupational Health and Safety Program Overview

Purpose:

To summarize the Occupational Health and Safety program for staff having exposure to research animals in the ACF. Personnel responsible for monitoring the program include the ACF Director and the Department of Environmental Services, and the IACUC.

Procedure:

- 1) The Occupational Health and Safety Program (OHP) is operated by the Office of Environmental Services. It is designed to protect both the personnel and the laboratory animals. Personnel included in the program are those involved in the direct care of animals and their living quarters as well as those individuals who have direct contact with animals (live or dead), their viable tissues, body fluids, or wastes. This includes all ACF staff, Investigators, personnel in Facilities, Loyola Environmental Services, and Building Management Service.
- 2) Mandatory annual training for Research Service Employees also includes the following:
 - a) Safety Training (topics covered are Keeping Health Care Healthy, Shock Proof, Electrical Safety, and Protecting Yourself from AIDS)
 - b) Fire Safety
 - c) Research Safety
 - d) Hazardous Materials Safety Training
 - e) Electrical Safety
- 3) Additionally, for personnel working with or near radioactive materials, it is mandatory that they participate in the Radiation Safety Training Program.
- 4) Waste Anesthetic Gas training is required of all staff working within the ACF Surgical Units.
- 5) The OHP includes a medical examination, annual tuberculosis screening, opportunity for rabies, hepatitis, tetanus-diphtheria pre-exposure, and respiratory fit testing. *Toxoplasma* serum titer checks for all women of childbearing age are recommended to assess the risk of complications that could result from exposure to toxoplasmosis during pregnancy.
- 6) Special procedures are required for:
 - a) the use of protective clothing
 - b) occupational health and safety training
 - c) experiments involving radiation
 - d) experiments involving hazardous agents