

BU Agent Incident Reporting Summary January 2015 to March 2015 (Quarter 1)

**CAMPUS	Date of Incident	Incident Type/Agent Involved	BSL	Transmissible Person to Person	Description	*Reportable Incident	Report of Clinical Illness	Comments/Corrective Actions
BU Medical Campus (BUMC)								
BUMC	1/14/15	Mouse Bite	BSL2	No	A research technician walked into ROHP reporting that she was bitten on her left index finger by a mouse during a transfer from cage to cage. There were no bacteria, virus or biologic agents involved with this mouse and an animal bite report was submitted to BPHC.	Yes	No	Workers will be retrained on proper transfer techniques.
BUMC	1/22/15	Mouse Bite	BSL2	No	A undergraduate student researcher sustained a mouse bite on the left thumb through his protective glove. The bite occurred over the thumbnail and appeared not to break the skin. However, the force of the bite caused a some bleeding under the nail which seeped out from under the nail. The student was counseled about this risk and advised to apply ice to the thumb & followed up with ROHP. A report of a research animal bite was faxed to the BPHC.	Yes	No	Retrain students on proper blood draw techniques. Review SOP's to ensure best practice.
BUMC	2/3/15	Mouse Bite	BSL1	No	A lab animal caretaker was bitten on her left middle finger by a mouse. The mouse is from a ABSL 1 lab and no virus, bacteria or biologic agent involved. This staff was further evaluated and treated at ROHP today. An animal bite report was sent to BPHC.	Yes	No	Use proper handling techniques for removing mouse from cages.
BUMC	2/4/15	Laceration	BSL1	No	A right hand dominant researcher reports he accidentally cut his left thumb with a clean scalpel blade. The incident happened when using a blade to cut epoxy resin. This researcher was evaluated at the ED, treated with "skin glue" and followed up with ROHP immediately afterwards.	No	No	Create a proper SOP if this procedure is performed regularly. Purchase blade holders (scrapers), and use available equipment to hold blocks.
BUMC	2/4/15	Laceration	BSL2	No	A volunteer undergraduate research assistant sustained a laceration to her right thumb, index and middle fingers while adjusting a knob near a cryostat blade which was not covered by a guard. It was determined that this was a clean laceration, with no exposure to the fixed mouse brain tissue that she was working with. The student was evaluated and treated in the emergency room.	Yes	No	Student reported that proper procedures were not used when adjusting the tissue samples - protective guard on the cryostat was not used. Meetings are being held with LSC's to discuss current policies and procedures.
BUMC	2/12/15	Mouse Bite	BSL2	No	A veterinary research tech sustained a mouse bite to her left index finger. The incident occurred immediately after a training related to gastric lavage; after setting the mouse down, the mouse turned its head and bit the vet tech's finger. The mouse was clean, with no exposure to biological agents or toxins. The researcher followed up with ROHP and a Biologic Research Laboratory Reporting form was completed and sent to the BPHC.	Yes	No	Continue training on procedure and handling of mice.

BUMC	3/9/15	Exposure to Skin	BSL2	No	A researcher reported to ROHP 3-11-15 that he had an incident while at work two days prior (3-9-15) in which the pipette he was working with broke and a small piece hit intact skin of lower lip/ chin area but not mucous membrane. 3rd generation, non-replicating Lenti virus work was last done using this same pipette one week prior to this incident. The employee was evaluated and treated in ROHP.	No	No	Researcher recommends the pipette be changed out at least once a year and that a face shield should be worn. EHS is also working to determine appropriate Vacuum Flask set up materials.
BUMC	3/16/15	Inhalation Exposure	BSL2	No	A researcher walked into the ROHP clinic reporting she had an incident earlier in the morning while working. This researcher reports she was working with an endotoxin: Lipopolysaccharide from E. Coli under a hood with the hood shield in place, a fluorescent light on, wearing double gloves and a lab coat but not wearing a face mask and possibly without turning on the hood blower when she "felt something weird in (her) throat". She reports she worked with this agent under the hood for about 30-60 seconds before she added PBS (phosphate buffered saline) solution. She reported her a burning sensation in the back of her throat with a tickle, a tightness and heavy feeling in her throat with breathing. This researcher was further evaluated in the emergency room and followed up with ROHP. A biologic reporting form was submitted to BPHC.	Yes	Yes	The PI states that he will retrain is staff on proper biosafety cabinet use, PPE, and handling of LPS.
BUMC	3/17/15	Gerbil Bite	BSL2	No	A researcher reported to Research Occupational Health Program that she was bitten on by a gerbil. The gerbil had just been given oral gavage of Giardia cysts. This researcher was evaluated and treated in ROHP and an animal bite report was submitted to BPHC.	Yes	No	Review proper training/handling techniques with ASC Trainer
Charles River Campus (CRC)								
CRC	1/19/15	Possible exposure to Hydrofluoric Acid	BSL1	No	A researcher called ROHP to report she was advised by EH&S to report she had a possible exposure to Hydrofluoric Acid. This researcher reports she had been working with diluted hydrofluoric acid (less than 10%) wearing two pairs of nitrile gloves and a HF black heavy glove. She later removed the HF black heavy glove and washed her work station & hood with a water gun wearing the two pairs of nitrile gloves. When she removed the two pairs of nitrile gloves she reports noticing liquid on her right index and middle fingers. She was concerned about a possible exposure to hydrofluoric acid & was further evaluated in the emergency and followed up with ROHP.	Yes	No	Liquid was likely sweat under the second pair of gloves. BUPD was notified due to concern with the nature of the chemical. Student was reminded that ROHP has a 24 on call line for consultation on lab incidents. Research Safety will work with the PI on lab specific training to ensure most effective notification. In this situation BFD Hazmat was not needed.

CRC	1/24/15	Exposure to Benzyl Bromide Vapors	BSL2	No	EHS & BU Police notified ROHP that a student researcher was exposed to vapors of Benzyl Bromide. The student irrigated her eyes & face at the eyewash station immediately and was transported, evaluated and treated in the emergency room. ROHP followed up with this researcher who reported she had been working in the fume hood with PPE but later popped her head back into the lab and felt a burning of her eyes 1/24/15.	No	No	All of the fume hoods in affected laboratory are being re-evaluated by EHS representatives to ensure proper function. EHS representatives are re-training research staff on proper use of fume hoods. This topic will also be discussed at lab safety meeting. A follow up with the student also occurred in which proper fume hood usage/technique was covered to avoid recurrences.
CRC	2/20/15	Percutaneous Injury to Right Finger	BSL1	No	An undergraduate student researcher sustained a percutaneous injury to his right index finger through his protective glove. While performing a craniotomy on a mouse, the student had used a syringe with a bent needle as a "hook" to pull back some cranial bone. The needle had been contaminated with the mouse fluid and tissue prior to the incident, but was otherwise clean. The mouse had not been exposed to any biological agents or to any toxins. The researcher has followed up with ROHP.	No	No	EHS has recommended that when the student becomes fatigue, put down all instruments before resting period
National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory (NEIDL)		No Incidents						
Other - Collaborating Laboratory		No incidents						

** Indicates if incident is reportable to local, state or federal agency (e.g. Centers for Disease Control, National Institutes of Health, Boston Public Health Commission, etc.)*

**** Campus Location**

BUMC - Boston University Medical Center

CRC - Charles River Campus

NEIDL - National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratories

Other - work done at collaborating laboratories