

BU Agent Incident Reporting Summary July to September 2017

| **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 | 7/10/17 | Scratch from nail on NHP crate | ABSL2 | No | An animal care taker was accidentally scratched on the undersurface of his right 4th and 5th fingers by a nail as he was dismantling a non-human primate crate. He was evaluated and treated in ROHP for potential Herpes B exposure. | Yes | No | The worker has been advised by his manager and EH&S to utilize tools, such as a crowbar, to dismantle the crate rather than his hands. |
| BUMC | 7/17/17 | Left shoulder strain | ABSL2 | No | An animal care cage wash staff strained his left shoulder when he pulled a mouse cage forward with both arms out of a tunnel washer. | Yes | No | An ergonomic evaluation of the workers tasks is to be completed. |
| BUMC | 7/31/17 | Clean needle stick injury to left palm | ABSL2 | No | A summer intern sustained a clean needle stick to her left hand when she attempted to remove the cap from a sterile syringe. | Yes | No | The PI trained the student on the proper way to uncap the syringe. |
| BUMC | 8/14/17 | Sharp exposure with potential exposure to Herpes B | ABSL2 | No | An animal care technician reached past a grate in the dirty cage wash to clean debris from a floor drain cover and sustained a scrape from potentially contaminated fiberglass particles through her sleeve cover as her arm came up against the grate. She was evaluated and treated in ROHP for potential Herpes B exposure. | Yes | No | The Animal Science Center staff will utilize broom and dust pans with long handles(approximately 3 feet) rather than using a hand-held brush and dust pan to clean the drains. This will eliminate the need to put your hand and arm into the drain basin. |
| BUMC | 8/24/17 | Sharp injury to left middle finger | BSL2 | No | A custodian sustained a sharp injury while working in a lab while closing a red trash bag, he felt a sharp object puncture his left middle finger. He was evaluated in the emergency room and followed up with ROHP. | Yes | No | The department where this incident occurred has been retrained on what items are considered "sharps" hazards and how to appropriately dispose of these materials. Further, sharps educational signage has been created and distributed throughout the department. Sharps identification and proper disposal information will be reinforced in future orientation trainings. |
| BUMC | 9/14/17 | Contusion to right hand while lifting a bucket | ABSL2 | No | A technician sustained a contusion when a bucket dropped on her right hand. | No | No | Spigots will be inserted in the side of the lower portion of the pails to allow the disinfectant solution to drain without physically lifting and manipulating the pail. |
| BUMC | 9/20/17 | Right shoulder and left thumb strain | ABSL2 | No | An animal care technician came reported right shoulder and left thumb pain due to repetitive stress reaching up on a rack to change mouse cages and water bottles. | Yes | No | An ergonomic evaluation of the workers tasks is to be completed. |
| BUMC | 9/29/17 | Inhalation exposure to isoflurane in lab | BSL1 | No | A lab manager called to report that a 250ml glass bottle of isoflurane fell from a shelf and shattered on a lab bench. | No | Yes | The lab has been instructed not to store chemicals in boxes on shelves and that all chemicals must be stored in the appropriate storage area. |
| Charles River Campus (CRC) | | | | | | | | |
| CRC | 7/6/17 | Percutaneous exposure to wild bat blood | BSL-2 | No | A visiting scientist reported he sustained a percutaneous injury from a needle contaminated with wild bat blood. | Yes | No | Implemented a sheathing mechanism to protect researcher from sharps hazard. |
| CRC | 7/11/17 | Possible exposure to Histoprep | BSL-2 | No | A post-doctoral associate reports he may have sustained an inhalation and topical skin exposure to Histoprep. | No | No | The lab will clearly label all denatured ethanol bottles. Lab staff unfamiliar with Histoprep will be informed of methanol presence. |
| CRC | 7/24/17 | Laceration to right index finger and possible BBP exposure | BSL-2 | No | A Master's student sustained a sharp injury to her right index finger when she tried to push the glass pipette into a vacuum pipe to take up media that may have contained human cancer cells. The media may have contained human cells. This student followed up with Occupational Health. | Yes | No | Be more cautious when handling glassware and inspect glassware prior to use. |
| CRC | 8/1/17 | Mouse bite to right thumb | ABSL1 | No | An undergraduate researcher was bitten by an ABSL1 mouse on her right thumb through one pair of gloves when the mouse turned and bit her as she was scruffing it. | Yes | No | The researcher will be more cognizant of finger placement and positioning when scruffing mice. |
| CRC | 8/3/17 | Finger laceration to left index finger | ABSL1 | No | A researcher cut his finger on a chipped beaker. The beaker contained non pathogenic rat endothelial cells but no biological or chemical agents. | Yes | No | The lab will regularly inspect glassware for chips and breaks. Any broken glassware will be removed from service for repair or replacement. |
| CRC | 8/16/17 | Sharp injury to left index finger with clean scalpel | BSL2 | No | A post-doctoral associate sustained a laceration to her left index finger while cutting a plastic pipette with a clean scalpel. No biological or chemical hazards were involved in this incident. | No | No | The lab is using a non-sharp tool to conduct the task associated with this incident. |

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| CRC | 8/21/17 | Chemical splash to face | N/A | No | A PhD student was accidentally exposed to a combination of chemicals (Tetrahydrofuran, Benzaldehyde and Sodium Hydride) on her chin, lips and neck when the liquid splashed up from the chemical hood as a reaction overheated and built up pressure. | No | No | The student was retrained on the standard operating procedure for this task. |
| CRC (TEACHING LAB) | 9/13/17 | Clean needle stick injury to right ring finger | N/A | No | An undergraduate student sustained a clean needle stick when he tried to attach the needle to a syringe. | Yes | No | Exercise caution when handling sharps |
| CRC (TEACHING LAB) | 9/13/17 | Report of hives following chemistry lab class | N/A | No | An undergraduate student reported that she experienced a rash on her torso and legs after leaving a chemistry lab and was further evaluated by ROHP. | No | No | Teaching fellow is aware now that the student is allergic to organic solvents and remind all the students not to handle the chemicals outside the fume hood. They should dispense the chemicals in designated fume hood, cap the containers before taking out from fume hood. The student should inform teaching fellow immediately if she feel uncomfortable during the class. The instructor will remind the student to take antihistamine before the class. |
| CRC | 9/23/17 | Possible chemical exposure | N/A | No | A graduate student added bleach to cell culture waste and contacted the lab safety coordinator as he was concerned about a potential chemical exposure. | No | No | The lab has been made aware that adding bleach to this specific material is not allowed. All researchers in this lab are now required to read the material's SDS prior to its use. The statement "Do no add bleach" will also be written on the material's packaging. |
| National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory (NEIDL) | | | | | | | | |
| NEIDL | 8/23/17 | Skin exposure to splash of Sodium Hydroxide | N/A | No | A mechanic and two contractors were exposed to a splash of sodium hydroxide when doing monthly preventative maintenance. There was no exposure to the waste water tank, its contents or to biological hazards. | No | No | PPE within this room will be increased to have a chemical resistant apron, extended gloves, safety goggles, and a face-shield available while working with caustic or acidic material. An outer hose was placed on top of the discharge hose as a means of double containment, so that if this were to reoccur, the liquid would drip down onto the barrel and remain contained instead of compromising the surrounding area. |
| Other - Collaborating Laboratory | | No incidents | | | | | | |
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** 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