

BU Agent Incident Reporting Summary July to September 2021

**CAMPUS	Date of Incident	Incident Type/Agent Involved	BSL	Transmissible Person to Person	Description	Reportable Incident	Report of Clinical Illness	Agency Reported To	Comments/Corrective Actions
BU Medical Campus (BUMC)									
BUMC	7/7/21	Mouse bite to right index finger	ABSL-1		Animal Science Center Trainer called ROHP at 2:15 pm today to report a researcher while in training was just bit by a non-transgenic, non-experimental mouse.	Yes	No	BPHC	Root cause: training/ insufficient skills or expertise. Researcher retrained by animal trainer for proficiency.
BUMC	7/27/21	Bloodborne pathogen exposure and laceration to right thumb	BSL-2		A Research Technician called ROHP at 12:10 pm to report she cut her right thumb with a razor blade.	Yes	No	BPHC	Root cause: not conscientious. Sharps safety techniques and good lab practices were re-reviewed with researcher and online training for sharps safety assigned to promote awareness.
BUMC	7/27/21	Laceration to L 3rd middle finger	BSL-2		At 12:45 pm today ROHP received a call from a PhD student that another PhD student had nicked his finger on the non-cutting edge of a microtome blade used to cut fixed monkey brain tissue.	Yes	No	BPHC	Root cause: equipment related. The blade should have been removed prior to the researcher making an adjustment with the screw. All lab staff were retrained and supervised for proficiency and understanding with hands-on demonstrations and updated SOP.
BUMC	7/28/21	Mouse bite to right index finger	ABSL-1		A manager called ROHP at 9:20am to report an Animal Care Technician was bitten on her finger by a ABSL1 breeding mouse that had no hazardous agents.	Yes	No	BPHC	Root cause: not conscientious. Staff reported they mistakenly loosened grip on the mouse which allowed it to bite. Good handling techniques were reaffirmed.
BUMC	8/31/21	Report of inhalation concern	N/A		ROHP received a telephone call at 3:10 pm from a Clinical Research Coordinator/ Research Assistant II, BMC reporting she has developed at around 11:00 am a new onset of symptoms when she smelled gas/ exhaust smell in her office.	No	No	N/A	Root cause: none identified. Both work space and floor were monitored with EHS equipment and readings indicated no findings of concern. Staff were advised to contact control desk should odor reoccur.
BUMC	9/7/21	Puncture/scratch to left thumb	ABSL-2		An Animal Care Technician called ROHP at approximately 9:35 am to report he had just 20 min prior punctured his left thumb with a key that had broken in half when he used it to open a lock on a NPH cage.	Yes	No	BPHC	Root cause: equipment related. The key had snapped and subsequently the staff sustained a thumb laceration which provided potential route of exposure to Herpes B. The broken key was replaced.

BUMC	9/16/21	Non-experimental mouse bite to L index finger	ABSL-1		A Animal Science Staff called ROHP at 3:00 pm from the training room to report he was bitten by a non-experimental mouse.	No	No	N/A	Root cause: not conscientious. To prevent bites, staff will adhere to the cupping method to recapture mouse.
Charles River Campus (CRC)									
CRC	7/9/21	Puncture to right 5th digit finger pad	N/A		ROHP got a call from a Graduate Research Assistant at 4:25 pm on 7.9.21 who reported she had punctured her right 5th digit on the pad with a needle and syringe.	No	No	N/A	Root cause: not conscientious. Procedures were re-reviewed and other disposable needle types having blunt or rounded tips were advised for future research work. Also, online training for sharps safety was assigned to promote awareness.
CRC	7/12/21	Transgenic mouse bite to right fifth finger	ABSL-2		A right hand dominant 4th year PhD student called ROHP at 12:00 noon to report she was bitten by a SCID mouse (Severe combined immunodeficiency) through two pairs of gloves on her right fifth finger.	Yes	No	BPHC	Root cause: not conscientious. Researcher reported they will make minor adjustments to scruffing the mouse when administering injections. Researcher is proficient performing these tasks.
CRC	7/12/21	Burn to left lower medial lower leg	N/A		ROHP was notified by Safety on 7.13.21 that a researcher at sustained a burn to left lower leg with TFA on 7.12.21 and sought emergency medical care after the injury at a local hospital.	No	No	N/A	Root cause: training/lack of awareness and understanding of procedure and house keeping issue. Lab was reminded of proper emergency response procedures for accidental spills and reporting. Also it was recommended that minimal quantities of chemicals needed be ordered and stored accordingly to reduce the amount of potential hazards in the lab.
CRC	7/15/21	Non-transgenic rat bite to right small finger	ABSL-2		A Professor and PI on the Charles River Campus in a A/BSL2 lab called ROHP this morning at 10:10am to report she sustained a rat bite to her right 5th pinky finger yesterday, 7/14/21 at 2:00 pm.	Yes	No	BPHC	Root cause: not conscientious. Less experienced researcher assigned with holding the rat will continue to be monitored during animal lab procedures and provided guidance until independent proficiency is obtained.
CRC	8/2/21	Chemical splash to eyes	N/A		An Assistant Professor for Biomedical engineering called ROHP at about 3:10 pm to report an undergraduate student sustained a "tiny splash" of chemical to her eyes.	Yes	No	BPHC	Root cause: lack of personal protective equipment (PPE) and training/lack of awareness and understanding of procedure. Lab was instructed of proper utilization of PPE and will wear safety eye protection when conducting research work.

CRC	9/17/21	Splash of methyrturbyl ether on gloved hands	N/A		ROHP received a call at approximately 1:30 pm from a chemistry class Teaching Assistant who reported two students had spilled MTBE on their gloved hands.	No	No	N/A	Root cause: training/insufficient skills or expertise. According to SDS glove choice was appropriate. Proper emergency response procedures and reporting were reinforced with the class. Also, experimental setup and procedure was reviewed and a larger receiving vessel with more headspace was advised when dispensing liquids in order to prevent splashes.
CRC	9/17/21	Laceration to left palm	BSL-1		ROHP received a call Friday 9/17/21 at 4:55 pm from a teaching fellow that a student injured the palm of their hand with the plastic tip of micropipette.	Yes	No	BPHC	Root cause: training/insufficient skills or expertise. Experimental setup and procedures were re-reviewed and student was advised on good lab practices corresponding to specific lab equipment used for class experiment.
CRC	9/22/21	Splash of methyrturbyl ether on gloved hands	N/A		ROHP received a call at approximately 1:15 pm from a lab supervisor who had a student with her that had reported they had spilled MTBE on their gloved hand.	No	No	N/A	Root cause: training/insufficient skills or expertise. According to SDS glove choice was appropriate. Proper emergency response procedures and reporting were reinforced with the class. Also, experimental setup and procedure was reviewed and a larger receiving vessel with more headspace was advised when dispensing liquids in order to prevent splashes.
CRC	9/27/21	Cut to right index finger	N/A		ROHP received a call yesterday at approximately 3:30 pm on 9.27.21 from a class Teaching Assistant who reported an undergraduate student sustained a very small cut to their right index finger while turning a knob that had jagged edges to open an ice container.	No	No	N/A	Root cause: equipment related. Handle on ice machine was replaced. Students should notify their TF when broken equipment is observed so they can either repair or replace.
National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory (NEIDL)									
NEIDL	7/29/21	Breach of BSL4 suit glove	BSL-4		Telephone call from Biosafety Officer at 11:15 am today to report a researcher working in the BSL4 had a pin hole in her (left) suit glove noted at 11am.	Yes	No	BPHC	EHS determined that the pinhole was an existing defect in the glove. The glove stock was re-evaluated by EHS, making a determination the stock of gloves was of good quality. No further actions.

NEIDL (Rm 606)	7/30/21	Near miss exposure to SARS-CoV	BSL-3		ROHP received a call at 12:45 from Scientific Safety Officer reporting a possible exposure in BSL 3 of a Vet. Research Support Assist. who was in BSL 3 Lab space wearing a PAPR that did not have a filter on it.	Yes	No	BPHC	Vet. Research support assistant training progress was re-evaluated by BSL-3 NTAC. The worker was given 5 more entries to his scheduled entries and re-evaluation by a mentor before progressing to the next step of training.
NEIDL	8/7/21	Outer and inner glove tear with exposed left thumb	BSL-3		Safety notified ROHP via on-call service that a research assistant had cut her outer glove and 2 inner gloves which caused her thumb to be exposed while disposing of waste that had been disinfected.	Yes	No	BPHC	All wired baskets were removed from BSL-3 and replaced with non-wired baskets eliminating sharp edges.
NEIDL	8/23/21	Mouse bite to left thumb	ABSL-4		A biosafety officer called ROHP at 12:50 pm to report an Animal Core Technician working in the NEIDL BSL4 sustained a mouse bite to her thumb at 12:40pm. She was on supplied air and treated immediately by putting her hand in microchem.	No	No	N/A	Animal Core Technician was re-trained by EHS in the proper handling of mice to avoid bites.
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