

BU Agent Incident Reporting Summary October to Dec 2023

**CAMPUS	Date of Incident	Incident Type/Agent Involved	BSL	Description	Reportable Incident	Agency Reported To	Comments/Corrective Actions
BU Medical Campus (BUMC)							
BUMC	10/16/23	Cut to right thumb	ABSL-2	Cut to right thumb on edge of NHP bolt housing - potential Herpes B exposure	Yes	BPHC	Root Cause: Equipment related; broken. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: All NHP cages were inspected for any faulty or potentially injurious components. No other cages were determined to need repair and just this one was taken out of operation. Going forward, inspect prior to use.
BUMC	10/26/23	Percutaneous needlestick to right index finger	ABSL-2	Percutaneous needlestick to right index finger after used to inject chemicals in transgenic mouse	Yes	BPHC	Root Cause: Not Conscientious. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS assigned sharps safety training and re-reviewed sharps disposal technique.
BUMC	11/1/23	Right middle finger cut	BSL-2	Right middle finger cut on broken glass - no hazardous agents	No	N/A	Root Cause: House Keeping Issue and Equipment Related; broken. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Broken glass must be cleaned up immediately. Poor lighting inside cold room was resolved.
BUMC	11/6/23	Right 4th finger contusion	ABSL-2	Right 4th finger contusion on door	No	N/A	Root Cause: Not conscientious. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Employee will be more mindful of hand placement when opening doors in the future.
BUMC	11/14/23	Mouse bite to right 5th finger	ABSL-1	Mouse bite to right 5th finger	No	N/A	No biologics/hazardous agents involved with incident. Root Cause: Other. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Employee re-reviewed cage transfer techniques for animals requiring welfare checks.
BUMC	11/15/23	Hand dermatitis noticed after using hydrophobic pen ink	BSL-2	Hand dermatitis noticed after using hydrophobic pen ink	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; No Procedure/Inadequate Procedure. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Lab revised procedure involving ink.
BUMC	11/15/23	Mouse bite to right index finger while in training room	ABSL-1	Mouse bite to right index finger while in training room	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; Insufficient Skills or Expertise. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: New employee is continuing with additional training regarding scruffing technique.
BUMC	11/27/23	Sustained splash of non-human primate brain tissue to right eye.	BSL-2	Sustained splash of non-human primate brain tissue to right eye.	Yes	BPHC	Root Cause: Lack of PPE. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS recommended safety eye protection that provides a tight seal around the eyes while performing job task.
BUMC	12/20/23	Left forearm contusion from card access door magnet	NA	Left forearm contusion from card access door magnet	No	N/A	Root Cause: Equipment related; broken. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Door magnet was repaired.
Charles River Campus (CRC)							
CRC	10/2/23	Superficial laceration to left palm	N/A	Superficial laceration to left palm from pipette	No	N/A	Root Cause: Not conscientious. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS recommended student avoid bumping glass pipettes into other objects in the hood to prevent breakage.
CRC	10/2/23	Cut to left middle finger	N/A	Cut to left middle finger on clean glass flask	No	N/A	Root Cause: Equipment related; broken. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Inspect glassware prior to use and replace broken equipment.
CRC	10/10/23	Cut to left hand	N/A	Cut to left hand from clean glass pipette	No	N/A	Root Cause: Equipment related; defective. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS and student reviewed safe work practices regarding sharps.
CRC	10/11/23	Drop splash of chemical to left cheek	N/A	Drop splash of Acetonitrile 0.1% to left cheek	No	N/A	Root Cause: Equipment related; not maintained. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS advised staff to relocate pump bottles of chemicals to below eye level.

CRC	10/16/23	Splash of chemical to left cheek area	N/A	Splash of Dimethylformamide to left cheek area	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; individual not trained. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Lab replaced leur-slip syringes with leur-lock or fixed needle syringes according to SOP.
CRC	10/17/23	Chemical burn to tips of right hand fingers	N/A	Chemical burn to tips of right hand fingers after cleaning glass bottles that had contained phenylsuccinic and hydrochloric acid	No	N/A	Root Cause: Poor contamination control. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Check gloves for damage and change gloves frequently.
CRC	10/18/23	Student sensed tip of needle on thumb	N/A	Student sensed tip of needle on thumb while pouring diethyl ether from syringe into a beaker	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; insufficient skills or expertise. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS assigned sharps training to reaffirm safe practices.
CRC	10/19/23	Irritation to nares from chemical compound	N/A	Irritation to nares from chemical compound	No	N/A	Root Cause: House keeping issue. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS reviewed clean-up procedure when dealing with chemical compounds that are in powder form. This particular chemical compound is not considered hazardous per SDS.
CRC	10/20/23	Superficial cut top of left middle finger	N/A	Superficial cut top of left middle finger on capillary tube	No	N/A	Root Cause: Not conscientious. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS recommended student work cautiously when using sharps such as a capillary tube, no other hazards involved.
CRC	10/23/23	Cut to right thumb	N/A	Cut to right thumb with broken clean glass pipette	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; lack of awareness and understanding procedure. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS advised lab manager demonstrate technique with glass pipette prior to students performing task independently.
CRC	10/24/23	Chemical splash to face	N/A	Methanol splash to face	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; insufficient skills or expertise and lack of PPE. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS instructed lab to wear safety eye protection and use fume hood at correct sash level.
CRC	10/24/23	chemical splash to intact skin	N/A	drop of methanol splash to forehead above eyes	No	N/A	Root Cause: Lack of PPE. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS reminded student to don safety eye protection when working with chemicals.
CRC	10/25/23	Nicked right thumb with a scalpel	BSL-2	Nicked right thumb with a scalpel while working on a cadaver	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; insufficient skills or expertise. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS assigned sharps training to reaffirm safe practices.
CRC	10/26/23	Disinfectant spray to face	N/A	Peroxiguard spray to face	No	N/A	Root Cause: Other. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Procedures must be performed inside engineering controls.
CRC	10/27/23	Right thumb needlestick	BSL-1	Pricked right thumb with needle while aliquoting rat tail collagen 1	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; insufficient skills or expertise. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS assigned sharps training to reaffirm safe practices.
CRC	10/31/23	Drop of chemical on the tip of her right finger	N/A	Drop of glacial acetic acid on the tip of her right 2nd finger	No	N/A	Root Cause: None identified. Determined non-exposure. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Continue to work with instructor and glove supplier to ensure appropriate gloves are used. Asked instructor to continue to reinforce good glove hygiene with students.
CRC	10/31/23	Drop of chemical on finger	N/A	Drop of sulfuric acid on finger	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; Lack of Awareness/Understanding Procedure. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Students were retrained on lab procedure. Considered near-miss as gloves were worn appropriately and determined intact.
CRC	11/1/23	1st degree burn to right fingertips	N/A	1st degree burn to right fingertips on heating block	No	N/A	Root Cause: Higher Priority Conflict. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Student was reminded to pay attention to lab task at hand, to avoid rushing and turn off heat immediately after use.

CRC	11/8/23	Cut to right finger on broken glass	N/A	Cut to right finger on broken glass	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; Lack of Awareness/Understanding Procedure. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Students were retrained on lab procedure and recommended to use wooden equipment to replace glass.
CRC	11/7/23	Red/burning to Right hand after work with sodium ethoxide 21% in Ethanol	N/A	Red/burning to Right hand after work with sodium ethoxide 21% in Ethanol	No	N/A	Root Cause: Training; lack of awareness and understanding procedure. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS advised re-review of proper technique.
CRC	11/8/23	Splash to right eye and right arm	N/A	Splash to right eye and right arm with Carosafe	No	N/A	Root Cause: Lack of Oversight/Supervision. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS suggested carosafe specific training.
CRC	11/15/23	Deuterated.Chloroform spilled on plastic watch band	N/A	Deuterated Chloroform spilled on plast watch band. Warm sensation felt on wrist as plastic was melting but skin intact.	No	N/A	Root Cause: Lack of PPE. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS reminded student to pull gloves over the lab coat sleeves to prevent potential exposure to wrists.
CRC	11/15/23	Corneal abrasion sustained to right eye	BSL-2	Corneal abrasion sustained to right eye while cleaning shells	No	N/A	Root Cause: Other. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS recommended to don hair net. No biological/hazardous/chemical agents involved in incident.
CRC	11/17/23	Allergic reaction to nitrile gloves reported	N/A	Allergic reaction to nitrile gloves reported	No	N/A	Root Cause: Other. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS recommended alternative gloves to nitrile be provided to student for use.
CRC	11/20/23	Chemical on glove contact with cheek on right side of face	N/A	Chemical on glove contact with cheek on right side of face	No	N/A	Root Cause: Poor Contamination Control. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Change gloves more frequently and remove prior to touching face.
CRC	12/1/23	Splash of chemicals to right eye	N/A	Splash of chemicals to right eye	No	N/A	Root Cause: Lack of PPE. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Safety Goggles must be worn for entire job activity.
CRC	12/6/23	Paperlike cut to right hand finger while cleaning crucible	N/A	Paperlike cut to right hand finger while cleaning crucible	No	N/A	Root Cause: Equipment related; deffective. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: Deffective crucible was taken out of circulation for lab use and replaced with a new one.
CRC	12/12/23	Left eye possible exposure to sani chip bedding	ABSL-1	Left eye possible exposure to sani chip bedding	No	N/A	Root Cause: Lack of PPE. Steps to Prevent Recurrence: EHS recommended staff wear safety goggles that provide tight seal around the eyes.
National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory (NEIDL)							
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