

BU Agent Incident Reporting Summary January to March 2024

**CAMPUS	Date of Incident	Incident Type/Agent Involved	BSL	Transmissible Person to Person	Description	Type of Incident	Reportable Incident	Report of Clinical Illness	Agency Reported To	Employee/Student	Comments/Corrective Action
BU Medical Campus (BUMC)											
BUMC	1/12/24	Hot water splash to left ankle	ABSL-2		Hot water splash to left ankle	Intact skin exposure	No		N/A	Temporary Employee	Root cause: Human error. Ergonomics/positioning. Steps to prevent reoccurrence: Basket needs to be kept level while performing a transfer. Supervisor retrained personnel.
BUMC	1/25/24	Non transgenic mouse bite to right pinky finger	ABSL-1		Non transgenic mouse bite to right pinky finger	Animal Bite	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	New to animal handling, was being trained when incident occurred . Root Cause: Lack of experience. Steps to prevent reoccurrence: Individual will receive training until independently proficient
BUMC	1/29/24	Plastic tube cause contusion and superficial laceration right side of face	BSL-2		Plastic tube cause contusion and superficial laceration right side of face	Sharps	No		N/A	Employee	Root Cause: PPE use was not enforced. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: Cryogenic work requires face shield and safety eye protection.
BUMC	1/31/24	Employee hit top of head on door of NHP cage	ABSL-2		Employee hit top of head on door of NHP cage	Other	Yes		BPHC	Temporary Employee	Root cause: Human error. Steps to prevent reoccurrence: EHS emphasized the inherent hazardous risks associated with these job activities working within the NHP cage wash area and reminded employee to always remain vigilant and cognitively alert due to potential for Herpes
BUMC	2/8/24	Visiting researcher noticed smell of 2-mercaptoethanol	BSL-1		Visiting researcher noticed smell of 2-mercaptoethanol and had symptoms	Possible inhalation exposure	No		N/A	Visiting Researcher	Root Cause: Procedure not followed. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS advised researcher use fume hood when handling chemicals.
BUMC	2/16/24	Possible piece of cover slip in right thumb	BSL-2		Possible piece of cover slip in right thumb	Sharps	No		N/A	PhD Student	Root Cause: Procedure not followed. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS reviewed with researcher proper technique and procedure.
BUMC	2/26/24	Splash Phosphate Buffered Saline-PBS and mouse lung cancer cells to face	BSL-2		Splash Phosphate Buffered Saline-PBS and mouse lung cancer cells to face	Intact skin exposure	No		N/A	Employee	Root cause: PPE use not enforced. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: Researcher was advised to wear eye protection with working in a BSC and whenever there was risk of splash.
BUMC	3/14/24	Cut to right index finger from clean razor while training to collect mouse tissue	ABSL-1		Cut to right index finger from clean razor while training to collect mouse tissue	Sharps	No		N/A	Employee	Root Cause: Human Error. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: Researcher was advised to complete sharps safety training.

BUMC (Framingham Heart Study)	3/15/24	Splash of blood to face - possibly eye	BSL-2		Splash of blood to face - possibly eye	Non-intact skin exposure	Yes		BPHC	Vascular Medicine Fellow	Root cause: PPE use not enforced, Process or protocol design lacking. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: Splash to face would have been mitigated by wearing of required safety glasses/goggles. Wearing of a face shield will be added to IBC protocol and SOP.
BUMC	3/19/24	Drop of NHP brain tissue/PFA splash into right eye	BSL-2		Drop of NHP brain tissue/PFA splash into right eye	Non-intact skin exposure	Yes		BPHC	PhD Student	Root cause: PPE use not enforced. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: The lab was reminded of the importance of safety eyewear and to use what is available for protection in the laboratory setting.
BUMC	3/19/24	Left thumb laceration and potential BBP cryostat blade	BSL-2		Left thumb laceration and potential BBP cryostat blade	Sharps	Yes		BPHC	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Lack of Experience. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: Student will continue to gain experience in procedure which includes replacing blade guard for all cryostat blade adjustments. Student will also take online EHS Sharps Safety Training.
BUMC	3/28/24	Mouse bite, non-transgenic, no biologics to right dorsal surface	ABSL-1		Mouse bite, non-transgenic, no biologics to right dorsal surface	Animal Bite	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Human Error. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: Animal handling and transfer procedures for mice were reviewed.

Charles River Campus (CRC)											
CRC	1/22/24	Right index finger laceration- razor used on mouse bone	ABSL-2		Right index finger laceration - razor used on mouse bone	Sharps	No		N/A	PhD Student	Root Cause: Lack of Experience, Human Error. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS advised student complete sharps safety training
CRC	1/24/24	Needle stick to right index finger after Allyl Bromide use	BSL-1		Needle stick to right index finger after Allyl Bromide use	Sharps	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Lack of Experience. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS advised student complete sharps safety training.
CRC	1/29/24	Splash of dichloromethane to left eye	BSL-2		Splash of dichloromethane to left eye	Non-intact skin exposure	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: PPE not used. EHS advised donning standard lab PPE.
CRC	2/8/24	Left 4th ring finger cut	BSL-1		Left 4th ring finger cut on mixing tool exposed to Trizol	Sharps	No		N/A	PhD Student	Root Cause: Hazardous Physical Environment. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: Student was retrained on precautions regarding mixing tool.
CRC	2/15/24	Students working with osmium tetroxide	BSL-2		Two PhD students working with osmium tetroxide under a biofume hood concerned about possible exposure to chemical	Possible inhalation exposure	No		N/A	PhD Student	Root Cause: Improper Equipment Used. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS emphasized importance of using fume hood as an engineering control when working with chemicals.
CRC	2/16/24	Poked left 2nd digit with needle that had touched diethyl ether	N/A		Stuent poked left 2nd digit with needle that had touched diethyl ether	Sharps	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Lack of Experience. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS advised student complete sharps safety training.
CRC	2/21/24	Mouse bite to right thumb pad, non-transgenic, no biologics	ABSL-1		Mouse bite to right thumb pad, non-transgenic, no biologics	Animal Bite	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Human Error. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS advised student to use forceps when picking up a mouse for transfer and to target more the tip of the tail, not close to its body.
CRC	2/26/24	Right thumb scratch from glass capillary tube that contained 100% Dichloromethane-DCM	N/A		Right thumb scratch from glass capillary tube that contained 100% Dichloromethane-DCM	Sharps	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Human Error. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS advised student to complete sharps safety training.
CRC	2/29/24	Questionable exposure of sheep blood in ethanol	BSL-1		Questionable exposure of sheep blood in ethanol	Other	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: PPE use not enforced. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: Don standard lab
CRC	3/1/24	Student in chemistry lab touched face with gloved hand and felt tingling sensation	N/A		Student in chemistry lab touched face with gloved hand and felt tingling sensation	Intact skin exposure	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Procedure not followed. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS advised student to practice good lab hygiene
CRC	3/5/24	Potential inhalation exposure to Hydrochloric acid	N/A		Potential inhalation exposure to Hydrochloric acid	Possible inhalation exposure	No		N/A	Master's Student	Root Cause: Inadequate Training Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: All work requiring the use of hazardous chemicals must be performed in the fume hood.
CRC	3/26/24	Oxone powder to left eye	N/A		Oxone powder to left eye	Non-intact skin exposure	No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: PPE not used. EHS recommended safety eyewear be fitted appropriately for individual.
CRC	3/26/24	Glacial acetic acid solution splash to chest through lab coat and sweatshirt	N/A		Glacial acetic acid solution splash to chest through lab coat and sweatshirt		No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Procedure not followed. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: Student was retrained on correct procedure.

CRC	3/26/24	Right index finger cut on microtome blade	BSL-2		Right index finger cut on microtome blade		?		?	PhD Student	Root Cause: Procedure not followed. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS instructed student to use a tool and avoid using hands directly when managing the blade.
CRC	3/26/24	Right forearm needlestick	?		Right forearm needlestick		?		?	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Lack of Experience. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS advised student complete sharps safety training.
CRC	3/27/24	Transgenic mouse bite to the right tip of index finger by mouse treated with Tamoxifen	BSL-2		Transgenic mouse bite to the right tip of index finger by mouse treated with Tamoxifen		No		N/A	PhD Student	Root Cause: Lack of Experience. EHS advised more training until student is independently proficient.
CRC	3/28/24	Right middle and pinky finger laceration	N/A		Right middle and pinky finger laceration on glass pipette		No		N/A	Undergraduate Student	Root Cause: Procedure not followed. Steps to prevent reoccurrence: Proper technique and procedure was reviewed with student.

National Emerging Infectious Disease Laboratory (NEIDL)											
NEIDL	1/8/24	Laceration to left distal middle finger - No hazard agents involved	BSL-2		Laceration to left distal middle finger	Sharps	No		N/A	Employee	Root Cause: Lack of Experience. Steps to prevent reoccurrence: New employee was retrained.
Other - Collaborating Laboratory		No incidents									
CRC (MGH)	3/1/24	Bite to left index finger by non transgenic mouse	ABSL-2		Bite to left index finger by non transgenic mouse that had been injected with Adeno-Associated Viral Vectors (AAV)	Animal Bite	Yes		BPHC	PhD Student	Root Cause: Human Error. Steps to Prevent Reoccurrence: EHS re-reviewed the procedures with the researcher involved with this incident.

* 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