

BioEscalator Laboratory Safety Policy 0002: Lab Coat and Eye Protection Policy

Cross reference to University Policy Statements: Biorisk Management Policy S5/09 and Eye Protection Policy S8/10

Cross reference to University Memoranda: Mandatory wearing of eye protection M8/17

Contents of Policy

1) Introduction	2
2) Laboratory coats	2
3) Eye Protection	2
4) Official Warnings	3

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1) Introduction

It is University Policies (Biorisk management policy (S5/09) and eye protection policy (S8/10) and memo mandatory wearing of eye protection (M8/17)) to wear lab coats and eye protection in containment laboratories (CL) (i.e. CL1, CL2, CL3) or other “wet” biological laboratories or support rooms (e.g. autoclave facilities).

Personal protective equipment including lab coat and eye protection is provided for staff including visitors, researchers from other institutions, contractors or students. Such items will be kept in good order and replaced as necessary.

Please contact a member of the BioEscalator laboratory manager for advice and help with this if necessary.

2) LAB COATS

LABOATORY COATS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHILST IN CONTAINMENT LEVEL 2 LABORATORIES IN THE BIOESCALATOR

Laboratory coat must be worn in containment level 2 laboratories including when working at microbiological safety cabinet (MSC) and fume cupboard. Laboratory coats are provided by the BioEscalator laboratory manager for the shared facilities i.e. Innovation lab 1 & 2, tissue culture lab, service lab, and chemistry lab and freezer room for the licensees and tenants.

3) EYE PROTECTION (Safety Glasses, Visors, etc.)

SAFETY GLASSES SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHILST IN CONTAINMENT LEVEL 2 LABORATORIES IN THE BIOESCALATOR

Protective eyewear must be worn in containment level 2 laboratories including when working at MSC and fume cupboard. Safety glasses can be obtained from the BioEscalator laboratory manager for the shared facilities i.e. Innovation lab 1 & 2, tissue culture lab, service lab, and chemistry lab and freezer room for the licensees and tenants. Other types of eye protection are available (e.g. face shield for cryogenic liquids and UV protection for gel documentation system) and are kept near the specific equipment for which they are required.

Note: UV-protective safety spectacles must not be used as the sole eye protection when working with UV light but must be accompanied by a UV-rated face shield to ensure the rest of the face is protected.

If any of these items is missing, please report this to a member of the BioEscalator management team.

It is acceptable not to wear safety glasses when working at a microscope but must re-don protection when working elsewhere in containment laboratories.

Note: if prescription glasses are worn then over-spectacles are provided for the licensees and tenants which must be worn over the prescription glasses.

4) OFFICIAL WARNINGS

If you are found working in the containment level 2 laboratories (shared facilities i.e. Innovation lab 1 & 2, tissue culture lab, service lab, and chemistry lab and freezer room) not wearing your laboratory coat and safety glasses, you will be given a warning and this will be reported to your supervisor/line manager and BioEscalator Business Manager.