

BIOHAZARDOUS AGENT REFERENCE DOCUMENT

Staphylococcus aureus

The Biohazardous Agent Reference Document (BARD) is a general guidance resource that reviews and summarizes the nature of a pathogen or biotoxin, and offers safety requirements for work with the agent in the laboratory. The BARD may replace the formal SOPs used in conjunction with some IBC registrations.

The BARD is provided as an additional guidance tool, and is not a substitute for a risk assessment, biosafety training, lab-specific training, or a formal [IBC master protocol registration](#). This document should be readily available in the laboratory, and it is the responsibility of the Laboratory Supervisor or Principal Investigator to ensure that all personnel have read, understood, and signed the document. The BARD is for informational purposes only, and is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Please consult a health care provider for any medical questions or concerns.

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Review the information contained in this document.**
- 2. Add any necessary information that is specific to your work in the laboratory (such as strain-specific information). Please be sure that the track changes function is turned on to indicate any changes that you make.**
- 3. Instruct all personnel to review the BARD and sign the last page, indicating that they have read and understood the information.**
- 4. Submit the BARD along with your IBC master protocol registration, amendment, or continuing review.**

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CHARACTERISTICS	
Morphology	Gram-positive, catalase positive, non-spore forming, nonmotile, cocci bacterium that usually form in clusters.
Strain Specific Characteristics	MRSA (methicillin resistant) MSSA (methicillin sensitive) VRSA (vancomycin resistant) VISA (vancomycin intermediate)

HEALTH HAZARDS	
Host Range	Normal flora in humans, wild & domestic animals
Modes of Transmission	Ingestion, contact with non-intact skin, mucous membranes
Signs and Symptoms	<u>Ingested</u> : nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, cramps, diarrhea <u>Deep Infection</u> : endocarditis, peritonitis, necrotizing pneumonia, bacteremia, meningitis <u>Toxic Shock Syndrome</u> : high fever, vascular collapse, vomiting diarrhea, muscle pain, hypotension, erythematous rash, peeling skin, death. May also cause skin infections, bone, joint, or organ infections, "scalded skin" syndrome in neonates and young children.
Infectious Dose	100,000 organisms
Incubation Period	30 minutes – 8 hours (ingestion)

MEDICAL PRECAUTIONS / TREATMENT	
Prophylaxis	None available
Vaccines	None available
Treatment	Appropriate antibiotics for serious infections, drainage of abscesses.
Surveillance	Monitor for symptoms and test using serology, PCR, microscopic examination, or microbiological isolation
UVM IBC Requirements	Report any exposures or signs and symptoms to your supervisor
Additional Medical Precautions	Opportunistic pathogen, may be resistant to multiple antibiotics. May cause necrotizing fasciitis in immunocompromised individuals

LABORATORY HAZARDS	
Laboratory Acquired Infections	29 reported cases as of 1973, with 1 death
Sources	Cerebrospinal fluid, joint aspirates, tissues, blood, abscesses, aerosols, urine, & feces from infected humans and animals, laboratory cultures

CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS	
BSL - 2	Manipulation of known or potentially infected clinical samples and cell cultures of laboratory adapted strains (RG2)
BSL - 3	
ABSL - 2	Work with animals infected with risk group 2 strains
ABSL - 3	
Aerosol generating activities	Centrifugation, homogenizing, vortexing or stirring, changing of animal cages, animal surgeries, cell sorting, pipetting, pouring liquids, sonicating, loading syringes
Primary containment device (BSC)	Use for aerosol-generating activities, high concentrations, or large volumes

EXPOSURE PROCEDURES	
Mucous membranes	Flush eyes, mouth or nose for 15 minutes at eyewash station.
Other exposures	Wash area with soap and water for 15 minutes
Medical Follow-Up	Contact UVMHC Infectious Disease Dept. directly at (802) 847-2700 for immediate assistance
Reporting	Report all exposures or near misses to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Your immediate Supervisor The UVM Biosafety Officer at (802) 777-9471 and Risk Management at 6-3242 Risk Management and Safety; https://www.uvm.edu/riskmanagement/incident-claim-reporting-procedures

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	
Minimum PPE Requirements	Nitrile gloves, lab coat, appropriate eye/face protection. Wash hands after removing gloves.
Additional Precautions (Risk assessment dependent)	Sharps use strictly limited.

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VIABILITY	
Disinfection	Susceptible to 1% sodium hypochlorite, 2% glutaraldehyde, 70% ethanol, 0.25% benzalkonium chloride, chlorhexidine, and formaldehyde; with 10-minute contact time
Inactivation	Inactivated by dry heat of 160 – 170°C for at least an hour. Not sensitive to moist heat.
Survival Outside Host	Can grow in a pH of 4.2 – 9.3, and in salt concentrations up to 15%. Can survive up to 42 days on carcasses and organs, up to 7 days on floors or coins, 46 hours on glass, 17 hours in sunlight, 7 hours under UV light, 60 days on meat products, up to 38 days on skin, and days to months on fabrics.

REFERENCES	
Canadian PSDS	https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/laboratory-biosafety-biosecurity/pathogen-safety-data-sheets-risk-assessment/staphylococcus-aureus.html
BMBL	https://www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmb15/
CDC Guidelines	https://www.cdc.gov/mrsa/lab/index.html
Current Protocols in Microbiology	https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23408135

SPILL CLEAN UP PROCEDURES	
Small Spill	Notify others working in the lab. Allow aerosols to settle. Don appropriate PPE. Cover area of the spill with paper towels and apply approved disinfectant, working from the perimeter towards the center. Allow 30 minutes of contact time before clean up and disposal. Dispose in double biowaste bags and biobox.
Large Spill	<p>Inside of a lab: Call UVM Service Operations at 656-2560 and press option 1 to speak to a dispatcher. Ask them to page Risk Management and Safety.</p> <p>Outside of a lab: Pull the nearest fire alarm and evacuate the building. Wait out front of the building for emergency responders to arrive.</p>

STUDENT / EMPLOYEE NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE

Biosafety Review:

Jeff LaBossiere, Biological Safety Officer

Date

Principal Investigator: _____

IBC Registration #: _____