



The University of Vermont

Institutional Biosafety Committee

Post Approval Laboratory Biosafety Assessment Process

Approved by Full IBC June 2017

In order to assist the UVM research community in adopting best laboratory Biosafety practices that help ensure a safe laboratory environment, the UVM Institutional Biosafety Committee has adopted the practice of regularly assessing laboratories associated with an active IBC protocol. Assessments are an opportunity for laboratory personnel to receive guidance on prudent laboratory/Biosafety practices and procedures, ask questions and voice concerns. This process is in addition to regular risk assessments conducted by the UVM Biosafety Officer in support of new protocols and amendments to existing protocols.

Assessment Frequency

Assessment frequency will depend upon the level of risk associated with the laboratory work and the principal investigators history of compliance/non-compliance with IBC policies. In the absence of any IBC related noncompliance, the UVM IBC will adhere to the following assessment schedule:

This schedule includes teaching laboratories.

BSL-1 laboratories – every 3 years

BSL-2 laboratories – every 2 years

BSL-3 laboratories – annually

Assessment Team

The assessment team will consist of at least 2 IBC members, including a biosafety representative. The principal investigator and Lab Safety Officer of each laboratory should be present during the assessment process to address questions posed by the assessment team. Investigators will be given 2 weeks prior notice of the visit.

Assessment Criteria

Assessments will include an evaluation/review of biosafety criteria referenced from lab specific IBC related SOPs, UVM Lab Safety Policies, the NIH Guidelines and the Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories. The assessment checklist is located in appendix A of this document and includes the following sections:

1. Facilities
2. Biosafety Cabinets
3. Equipment
4. Personal Protective Equipment
5. Safe Practices
6. Training Documentation
7. Biohazard Communication
8. Biological Waste Disposal

Assessment Outcome

Investigators will receive immediate feedback from the visiting IBC team as well as a follow up communication that documents the outcome and any further actions to be taken by the principal investigator and/or laboratory personnel.

RESEARCH PROTECTIONS OFFICE

213 Waterman Building, 85 South Prospect Street, Burlington, VT 05405
(802) 656-5040, <http://www.uvm.edu/rpo/>

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