ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

# Biosafety Level 2 Laboratory with Biosafety Level 3 Practices (BSL-2 with BSL-3 practices)

BSL-3 practices are required to provide additional safety when performing laboratory research with certain higher risk biological agents in a Biosafety Level 2 lab. Examples include culturing HIV, culturing Hepatitis C, culturing West Nile Virus, or working with certain viral vectors containing known oncogenes / biotoxins.

Outlined below are required practices in addition to standard BSL-2 practices. Refer to the references for additional rules that may apply to your specific research. The Principal Investigator (PI) is responsible for the enforcement of these practices.

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| **Lab-Specific Biosafety Manual** | Lab-specific written standardized safety procedures must be reviewed by an EH&S Biosafety Officer. The procedures must include training, entry/exit requirements, spill/exposure procedures, equipment operations, decontamination procedures. A template manual is available upon request. |
| **Training Program** | All lab personnel must have documented training on the lab-specific biosafety manual and practical training with the supervisor. All required EH&S safety classes must be current (e.g., Biosafety, Bloodborne Pathogens). |
| **Entry / Exit** | An entry/exit area is taped off on the floor for gowning and degowning. |
| **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** | A rear-opening lab coat and gloves are donned upon entry. Double gloves, goggles, and face shield are worn when risk assessment mandates. Reusable PPE is autoclaved prior to laundering. |
| **Decontamination** | All material leaving the lab must be decontaminated or autoclaved. Use of chemical disinfectants, autoclaving, etc. must be specifically addressed in the lab biosafety manual including the use of autoclave quality controls (e.g., chemical and biological indicators). |
| **Signage** | A BSL-2 with BSL-3 practices biohazard warning sign listing agents, entry requirements, and emergency contact information must be posted on the door. |
| **Access** | The lab door is to remain closed when not in use. It must be lockable with access under the control of the PI. The training program must include all persons with access so all are aware of the hazards. |
| **Sharps** | Alternatives to sharps must be used when feasible. If no alternatives, detailed safety procedures for their use must be included in the lab-specific biosafety manual. |
| **Open Manipulations of Infectious Agents** | Open manipulations of infectious agents must be conducted inside a biological safety cabinet or other physical containment device. |
| **Vacuum Lines** | In-line HEPA filters must be used on all vacuum lines. |
| **Inward Airflow** | The lab must have inward directional airflow. |
| **References** | Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL)<br>UW Biosafety Manual |

**Environmental Health and Safety · Research and Occupational Safety**
**Box 357165 · 206.221.7770 · Fax 206.221.3068 · ehsbio@uw.edu**
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