

HACKENSACK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
Research Department Policy Manual

**Name: Occupational Medicine Program for
Personnel Working With Live Animals**

Policy # IACUC 104

Effective Date: August, 2009

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GENERAL

Purpose: To outline the additional Occupational Medicine Program requirements for personnel working with live animals.

Administration: The Chairman of the Department of Research is responsible for the review and revision of this policy.

Policy: In addition to the HUMC Occupational Medicine Policies for all employees, all personnel working with live animals must comply with the additional requirements outlined below.

PROCEDURE

New Personnel submitting a protocol to the IACUC, being added to an existing protocol or working for the Department of Biological Resources (DBR) will receive a New Research Personnel Packet which will contain the following documents:

- Health History Form
- Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis Vaccine Information Sheet
- Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis Vaccine Consent
- Rabies Vaccine Information Sheet
- Rabies Vaccine Review and History Form

The above listed forms are to be reviewed, completed and brought to the Occupational Medicine Main Office or Satellite Office located in the Conklin Building.

The information will be reviewed and acted upon based on the information submitted on the forms.

Department of Biological Resources (DBR) Staff will be required to participate in the Occupational Medicine Program for Research Personnel as a condition of employment.

Research personnel working with live animals are encouraged to remain current with regard to the following vaccinations:

- Tetanus (all personnel)
- Rabies (available to all personnel but recommended for personnel working with dogs or feral animals)
- Rabies titers (performed every two years to ensure protection)

Any research personnel opting not to receive the above-recommended vaccinations must sign the wavier section of the consent forms.

Research being done on toxins or live viruses where vaccines are available will require all personnel working with the toxins or viruses be vaccinated as a condition of IACUC approval.

Annually, when complying with the TB test requirements of Occupational Medicine (January is Month for testing the employees of the Department of Research), the employees meeting the above listed criteria will be required to submit an Annual Health Review Form to the Occupational Medicine Nurse.

This will prompt the Occupational Medicine Nurse to review the employees' vaccination history and respond accordingly. The employee will receive a slip from Occupational Medicine stating that the employee has met the criteria for compliance of this policy. The employee must give a copy of the slip to their Principal Investigator and a copy to the Laboratory Animal Facility Manager. It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator to make sure their staff is compliant with this policy.

Note: The Occupational Medicine Requirements must be completed prior to working with live animals

REFERENCES:

Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals:
National Institutes of Health, Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare. Public Health Service: *Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (8/7/02)*. Section IV: Implementation by Institutions. Retrieved

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<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/phspol.htm#AnimalWelfareAssurance>

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<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/Guide-for-the-care-and-use-of-Laboratory-animals.pdf>

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Trundy, R.L. & Cook, S.S. (2006). Occupational Health and Safety. In J. Silverman, M.A. Suckow & S. Murthy (Eds.), *The IACUC Handbook* (pp. 359-378). Boca Raton: CRC Press.

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