

IBC: Animal Biosafety (ABSL-2) Guidelines

General:

Use of Biohazards in Animals required review and approval by the IBC and the IACUC. See the following for information: <http://www.southalabama.edu/departments/research/compliance/>. Review of the proposed work by the committees listed above includes assessment of potential hazards specific to the proposed research.

ABSL-2 precautions:

“Animal Biosafety Level 2 builds upon the practices, procedures, containment equipment, and facility requirements of ABSL-1. ABSL-2 is suitable for work involving laboratory animals infected with agents associated with human disease and pose moderate hazards to personnel and the environment. It also addresses hazards from ingestion as well as from percutaneous and mucous membrane exposure.

ABSL-2 requires that: 1) access to the animal facility is restricted; 2) personnel must have specific training in animal facility procedures, the handling of infected animals and the manipulation of pathogenic agents; 3) personnel must be supervised by individuals with adequate knowledge of potential hazards, microbiological agents, animal manipulations and husbandry procedures; and 4) BSCs or other physical containment equipment is used when procedures involve the manipulation of infectious materials, or where aerosols or splashes may be created.

Appropriate personal protective equipment must be utilized to reduce exposure to infectious agents, animals, and contaminated equipment. Implementation of employee occupational health programs should be considered.” BMBL 5th edition, page 67.

1. Inoculation of BSL-2 biohazardous materials (including, but not limited to: viral vectors and human tumor cell lines) must be performed within a Class II BSC*.
2. Tissue harvest (including blood collection) must be performed in the necropsy suite or in a Class II BSC.
3. ABSL-2 signage must be placed on the animal room door with BSL-2 agents are in use. See Comparative Medicine for your room assignment and signage.
4. Depending on hazard assessment as performed by the IBC, IACUC, and Attending Veterinarian, cages may be considered biohazardous. Please meet with Comparative Medicine prior to initiation of the animal experiments to discuss handling of soiled cages and other waste materials.
5. All cages containing animals inoculated with biohazardous agents must be marked with:
 - a. The agent,
 - b. The PI,
 - c. The date of administration, and
 - d. Any special handling requirements of soiled bedding/cages.
6. ABSL-2 carcasses are considered biohazardous and are incinerated.

*Deviation from using a Class II BSC must be approved by the IBC and/or IACUC Committee

Approved by: IBC Committee

Initially Approved: 03/06/2018