# Lab-Specific Biosafety Training for 20.109

## Why do we start with safety?

• This lab space contains a number of chemical and biological hazards

Risk of injury and infection for anyone work in or visiting the lab space

Risk of producing and releasing environmentally dangerous material

 Improper use and containment of hazards can also contaminate lab stock material and ongoing experiments

#### Hazards are categorized by biosafety level



- Biosafety level always posted at the door of the lab
- A combination of:
  - lab practice / technique
  - safety equipment
  - facility design
- Based on concept of "containment"
- For protection of:
  - personnel
  - lab
  - environment

#### What does BL2 mean?

- Suitable for work involving agents that pose moderate hazards to personnel and the environment.
- Organisms associated with disease that is rarely serious and often treatable

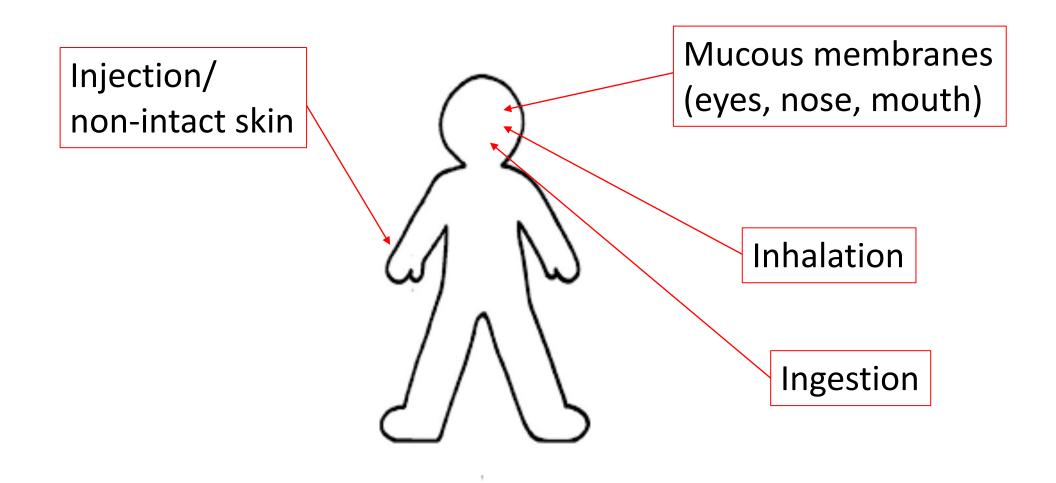
#### Why are we BL2?

- Work with human derived material including established and primary human cell lines/culture.
- Viral Vectors: lentiviral vector, Adenoviral vector

## What factors determine your risk when working in a BL2 space?

- Infectivity
- Pathogenicity
- Availability of prophylaxis
  - Before exposure (e.g. vaccination)
  - After exposure but before infection (e.g. antibiotics, antivirals)
- Your health status
  - Consult with MIT Occupational Heath or your personal physician about your research activities

#### Routes of exposure and transmissibility



Minimizing exposure when working with BL2 materials

#### Standard Microbiological Procedures

Restrict or limit access to space

Wear PPE

Wash your hands!

Disinfect containers and surfaces







#### Prohibited activities

- Eating (chewing gum)
- Drinking
- Smoking
- Applying cosmetics, i.e. lip balm
- Handling contact lenses
- Avoid touching face or biting your nails



- In bag in cubby is fine
- Not at bench
- Must eat and drink outside the lab door



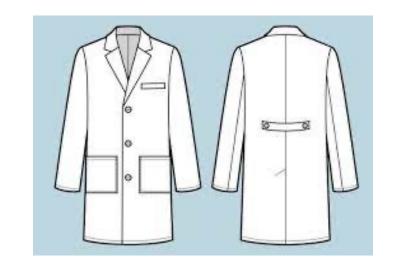




#### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

#### DO wear:

- Lab coat
- Gloves





#### DO NOT wear:

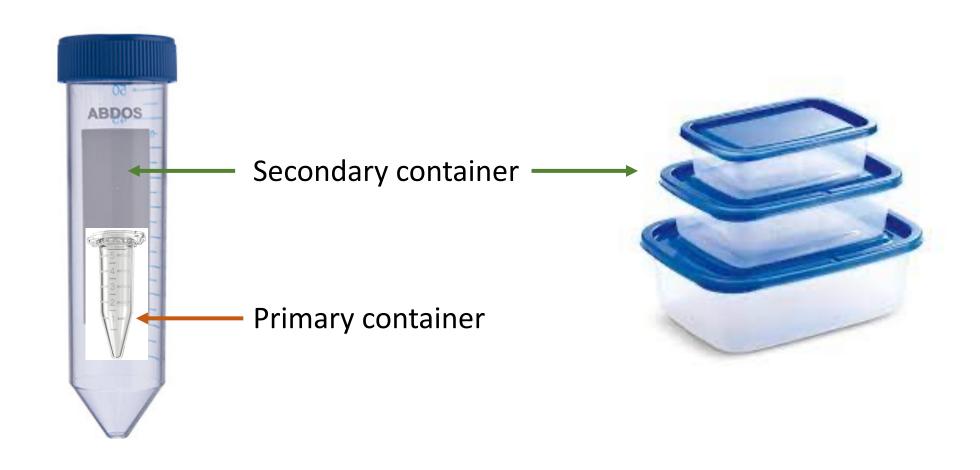
- Skirts/shorts without additional leg coverings
- Open-toed shoes



#### PPE should remain in the research area

- Lab coats should be left in the lab when leaving the room
  - To an auxiliary space to use equipment
  - To go to the TC room
- Gloves should not be worn when touching:
  - Phones
  - Door handles
  - Elevator buttons
- Use the "One glove rule" when carrying samples outside the lab

## Carry samples in a secondary container



Safe disposal of hazardous materials in the lab

#### Disposing of biohazardous waste

 Researcher has responsibility for management of research material from "cradle to grave"

- Types of biological waste:
  - Liquids
  - Solids
  - Sharps





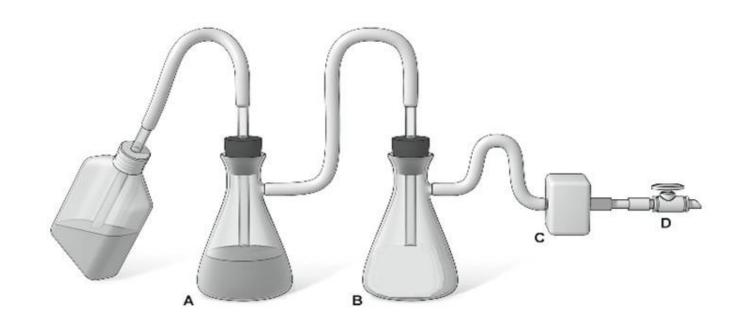


#### Liquid biological waste collection

 Liquid biological waste (cell media) can be aspirated into a collection flask using a vacuum pump

These are for biological waste only

 Chemical waste is collected in jugs and disposed of separately



A = primary collection flask with disinfectant

B = overflow flask with disinfectant

C = hydrophobic or HEPA filter

D = to vacuum pump

#### Neutralizing liquid biological waste

• Instructors perform this task- notify us if the waste level is high

- Use chemical disinfectant
  - Clorox bleach (1:10 final volume)
  - Let sit for at least twenty minutes
  - Pour down the drain and flush with water

• Because aspirator waste is mixed with a reactive chemical and disposed down the drain, it is important not to mix in chemical waste

#### Solid biohazard waste

 Solid biohazard waste should be collected at the bench in biowaste transfer containers

- This includes:
  - Tubes (conical and microcentrifuge)
  - Serological pipets
  - Pipet tips
  - ALL GLOVES

 At the end of lab, transfer the contents of the transfer container to the burn box at the front of the room

#### **Biowaste Transfer Container**



#### "Burn Box"



#### Sharps disposal

- Anything that can puncture or cut the skin
  - Pasteur pipettes
  - Glass vials, slides
  - Glass culture tubes

Dispose of in red sharps bins at bench or in hood

Notify instructors when bins are full



## What if something goes wrong?

## What if you are exposed to a biological hazard?

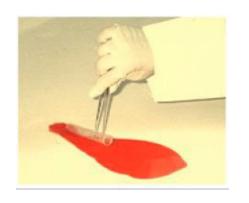
- If direct contact to your face or skin or if stuck by a needle or sharp
  - Immediately, wash the area with soap and water for 10-15 minutes
  - If it's in your eyes, nose or mouth, flush with water for 15 minutes
  - Tell the Instructors or TA immediately



• Instructor must submit an incident report



#### Cleaning up biohazardous spills









- Alert instructors, put on appropriate PPE, gather spill kit and appropriate equipment
- Remove any broken glass or sharps
- Cover the spill with paper towels
- Disinfect the spill: Saturate paper towels with disinfectant, let sit for 20 minutes
- Clean up the spill and dispose of spill materials in bio box
- Repeat steps 2-5

#### Emergencies

 MIT Alert http://emergency.mit.edu/mitalert/

• **617-253-1212** (fire/ injury/ police 24/7)

• Dial 100 from lab phone

Use emergency response guide posted in the lab

