



Animal Worker Protection Program

For
Support Personnel



AWPP for Support Personnel

This presentation is designed to promote a safe work environment by:

- Educating you on the **health risks** associated with **research animals** and their **environment**
- Discuss practices to **minimize** risks to you and research data



LARC Animal Facilities – unique safety considerations

Animal related hazards

- Allergens
- Animal waste
- Zoonosis

Facility related hazards

- Chemicals
- Biohazardous materials
- Physical hazards – steam, equipment movement, HVAC, etc.



Buildings with Animal Housing

The LARC manages housing facilities throughout campus

Buildings where animals are housed

- BSE
- BSB
- SRL
- MBT
- AET
- FSB



Building **Emergencies** & Animal Facilities

Contact the LARC if there are **emergencies** in these buildings, even if not related to animal housing areas

We will help by assessing possible impact to research data and animal well-being, & support your needs so you can proceed with confidence

Buildings: *BSE, BSB, SRL, MBT, AET, FSB*



Coordinating Routine Work

Before you begin work in LARC Facilities

Contact the LARC

- Rafael Fourquet – Facility Manager
 - 210 – 215 – 9027
- Luis Zorrilla – Assistant Director
 - 210 – 289 – 2240
- LARC main office
 - 210 – 458 – 6692
 - larc@utsa.edu
- LARC Emergency Pager
 - 210 – 229 - 0002



Balance Between Facility Repairs and Research

Research facilities consists of a a delicate environment and care must be employed when working in or around animal housing rooms

- Noise / vibrations (tools, traffic, etc.)
- Fumes / odors (paints, chemicals, etc.)
- Materials

*We must discuss scope of work in **advanced** and coordinate your needs while ensuring animal and research wellbeing*



Coordinating Routine Work

LARC will minimize or remove the hazard – prior to you entering by:

- Stopping animal manipulations in area
- Shutting off equipment (e.g. Cagewash)
- Ensure you wear appropriate PPE

Exceptions

- Campus Police (emergencies, etc.)
- Custodial – routine cleaning/maintenance



SAFETY FIRST



BENNETT THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

Coordinating Routine Work

NO Exceptions

Do not enter ANY animal room without first consulting with LARC

- ONLY in emergencies and LARC staff could not be reached immediately.

BSL – 3 Lab:

- Requires training and permission from **Lab Safety**



Coordinating Routine Work



While working or visiting, please:

- Stay in area working/visiting/inspecting
- Do not wander to “look around”
- Please do not disturb research personnel working in procedure rooms
- Obey fire alarms and exit facilities

HAZARDS

If encountered in work area:

- DO NOT touch or handle
- LARC will remove them for your safety
- Wear PPE as instructed

Animals

(Animal Allergens & Waste)



Chemicals



Biological Waste



Sharps Containers



Common Health Risks – Animal Allergens

Present in LARC animal facilities:

- Dander, Fur
- Soiled bedding



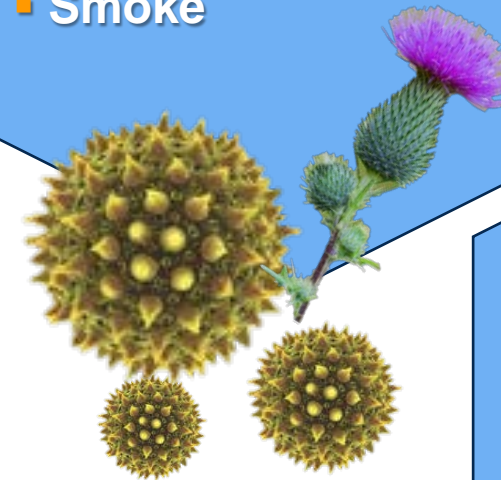
Exposure:

- Inhalation
- Skin contact (surfaces)
- Eyes (touching eyes, splashes)



You may be sensitive because you...

- Have hay fever/allergies
- Smoke



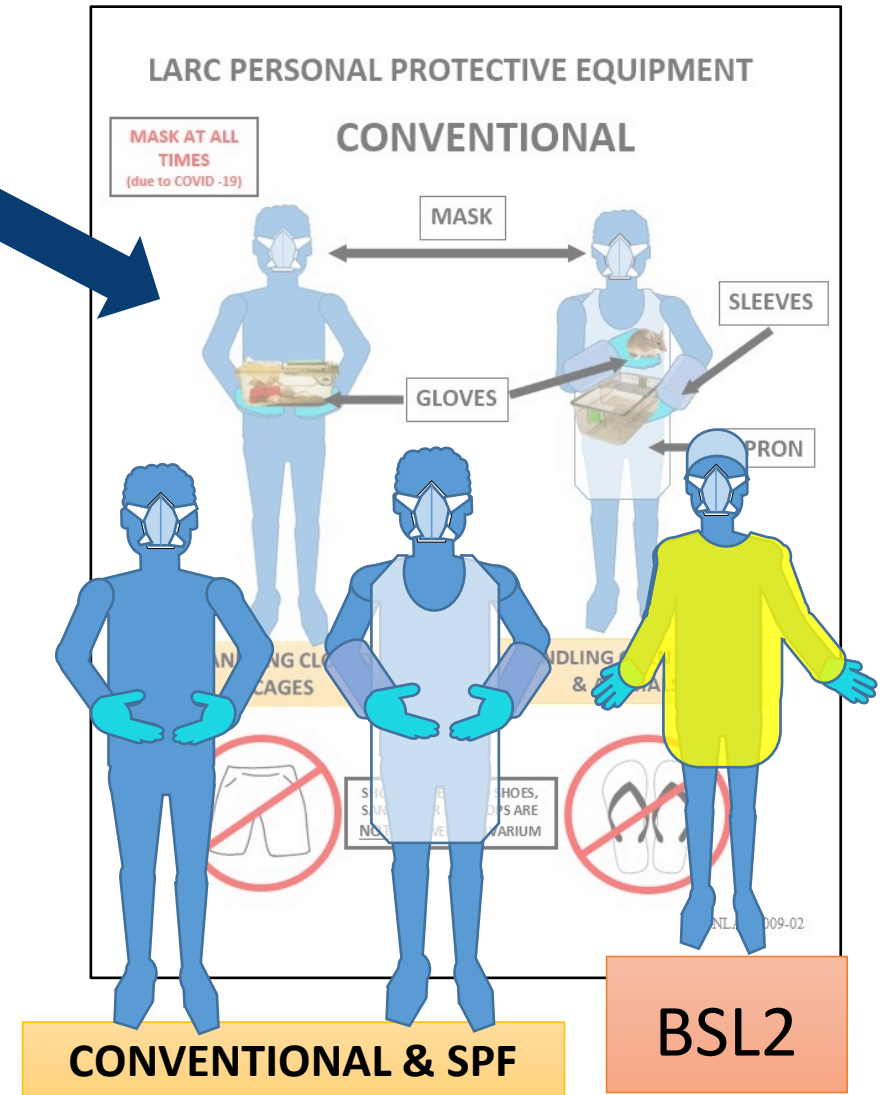
Contact OHP
if you have allergy
problems/questions
before entering animal
facilities

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Follow PPE Requirements as posted in LARC facility for room or area

PPE supplies are available in cabinets & rooms

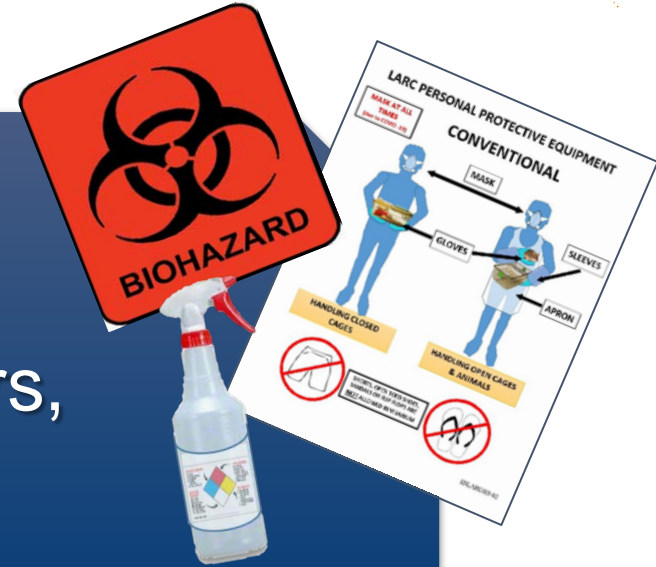
LARC Personnel will assist you with appropriate PPE



Safety Reminders:

When working in LARC Facilities:

- Pay attention to signage, stickers on doors, equipment, bottles & etc...
- Follow instructions of LARC personnel
- Do not handle live animals
- Do not enter areas/rooms outside work area/room



Security Reminders:



When working in LARC Facilities:

- Do not prop perimeter doors open
- Do not bring unauthorized individuals without LARC approval
- Do not share your UTSA ID and PIN
- Do not allow tailgating
 - Each person must use their UTSA ID card and PIN

Questions? Contact LARC X6692 or larc@utsa.edu

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

Due to
COVID-19:
Face masks
MANDATORY

Questions or
concerns – Health
issues/safety?

Contact OHP



REMINDER!!!

WASH HANDS

*Following each
activity & before
exiting LARC
facilities*

Final Reminders...



Before entering/gaining access to LARC Facilities you must:

- Review this presentation
- **Sign AWPP acknowledgement**
- Attend a LARC Facility Orientation



Finally, Thank You!!!

The LARC appreciates the hard work and dedication each of you puts into the support of our daily operations.
You are truly part of the "Research Team!"

