**ALERT: AAALAC Inspection and Chemical Safety**

AAALAC will inspect the UCSF Animal Welfare Program the week of **October 1, 2012**.

- Prior to this visit please ensure that lab personnel have reviewed MSDS for all hazardous chemical agents, they will work with, that are listed in your IACUC protocol.
- You must have documented verification clearly signed by individual lab workers that they have reviewed specific MSDS and understand the hazards of these chemicals.
- All documentation should be uploaded into your IACUC protocol.

Bio-hazardous and radioactive materials are not included in this requirement because these materials are covered under separate Use Authorization processes. The chemical program requirement is included in all IACUC applications and reads as follows:

*The Cal/OSHA Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories Standard ([http://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/5191.html](http://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/5191.html)) requires that all individuals who work with hazardous agents in a research setting be trained in their hazards. In order to ensure compliance, as you fill out the Experimental Agents Section after June 1, 2009, you will be asked to identify which agents are hazardous materials, and if they are chemicals, radionuclides, or toxins of biological origin, provide a link to each of their Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) ([http://or.ucsf.edu/ehs/7241-DSY/msds.html](http://or.ucsf.edu/ehs/7241-DSY/msds.html)). OEH&S asks that PIs maintain a record for every individual working in their lab that includes a list of the MSDSs that they have read, and verifies comprehension of the MSDSs. If you are working with an infectious agent, please include the link to the Public Health Agency of Canada's MSDS for each infectious agent ([http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/msds-ftss/index-eng.php](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/msds-ftss/index-eng.php)). Train your staff using these as you would a chemical MSDS.*

Hazardous materials are defined here as substances that produce a physical and/or health hazard. They include materials which are carcinogens, mutagens, and teratogens; toxic materials (agents with an oral LD50 of less than 500 mg/kg, including toxins of biological origin), irritants, corrosives, and sensitizers; materials which act on the hematopoietic system; materials which damage the lungs, skin, eyes, or mucous membranes; materials which are combustible, explosive, flammable, oxidizers, pyrophorics, unstable, and air or water-reactive; radionuclides; materials which in the course of normal handling, use, or storage may produce or release dusts, gases, fumes, vapors, mists or smoke which may have any of the previously mentioned characteristics; and infectious agents.

Common experimental agents that are NOT considered hazardous materials include: saline, media, non-toxin proteins, amino acids, food/chow, and antibodies. If you have any questions regarding whether a material is hazardous or not, please contact your Department Safety Advisor for assistance.

If you work with carcinogens for the purpose of inducing tumors, and animals will be handled by LARC employees that do not work for you, it is your responsibility to notify LARC supervisors of the planned use locations and expected start date of the experiment, and label the cages that have carcinogens in use.

Please call Peili Zhu at 514-2824 if you have any questions regarding this Safety Update.