

Environment, Health and Safety

Safety Update

RUA migration from RIO to UC Radiation

Revised 4/6/2023



Radiation Use Authorizations migrating from RIO to UC Radiation during 2023

Regulatory Requirement

The California Department of Public Health, Radiologic Health Branch (RHB) gives UCSF a Broad-Scope Radioactive Materials License and requires UCSF to control all radiation use within the university to ensure regulatory compliance. UCSF's Radiation Safety Committee (RSC) approves radiation use via Radiation Use Authorizations (RUA).

Former process

UCSF's Environment, Health & Safety (EH&S) department uses a program called Research Information Online (RIO) to keep track of the various Use Authorizations, such as RUAs, Biological Use Authorizations (BUA), Control Substances Authorizations (CSA), and Animal Use Authorizations (IACUC). Currently, RUAs in RIO are for radioactive materials use in laboratories, hospitals, clinics, and for human research studies involving radiation.

New process

During 2023, UCSF will be migrating RUAs from RIO to a UC-wide application developed by UC Safety Risk and Safety Solutions (RSS), called UC Radiation for short. UCSF has already transitioned to using many RSS applications, including Inspect, UC Chemicals, WASTE, etc. One advantage of the RSS suite of applications are that they are interconnected with each other, existing UCSF database information, and share a common landing page. However, BUAs, CSAs and IACUC protocols will remain in RIO after RUAs move from RIO to UC Radiation. RUA transition will include PI/lab manager/user testing and validation of their data in UC Radiation during the 2nd quarter of 2023, then discontinuing active use of RUAs in RIO and starting active use of RUAs in UC Radiation by the 3rd quarter of 2023.

The RUAs in UC Radiation will not only include the RUAs transferred from RIO for radioactive materials, but will also include new RUAs for X-ray use, lasers and high-energy magnets, such as MRI and NMR. The newer types of RUAs will roll out after existing radioactive materials RUAs are active in UC Radiation.

There are some notable differences between how RUAs are managed in RIO and UC Radiation. RIO doesn't allow for radioactive decay or for labs to track radioisotopes as they use them. The work-around in RIO was to track usage logs on paper or excel and for RIO to be updated with a quarterly inventory declaration. UC Radiation includes radioactive decay in real time, and the usage logs are built into the application in a complete process from request, receipt, storage, use, to waste and disposal.

Resources

EH&S introduced this transition in the February 2023 ReSearch ReSource newsletter and advertised the town halls in the March newsletter. The town halls, one at Parnassus and one at Mission Bay, are listed below and will be recorded for future reference:

April 12th | 1pm-3pm | Parnassus | Health Sciences West room 303 or via [Zoom](#)

April 13th | 10am-noon | Mission Bay | Rock Hall room 102 or via [Zoom](#)

UC Radiation may be accessed via MyAccess (via other RSS applications such as Inspect or WASTE), via the [UC Safety homepage for the RSS application suite](#), or directly via the [UC Radiation application](#) link. Tutorials both for researchers/users and for application administrators, as well as recordings of the town halls, can be found on the [EH&S Radiation Safety Resources](#) webpage.

Please direct questions or concerns regarding this Safety Update to your department's Departmental Safety Advisor (DSA), the [Safety Committees Coordinator](#), or to Radiation Safety at RadiationSafety@ucsf.edu.