

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO  
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE  
OLD WORLD PRIMATE WORKER  
POLICY ON SURVEILLANCE AND TRAINING**

**Policy**

There are several occupational health and safety risks associated with working with old world primates (OWP), their tissues and/or their bodily fluids. This policy outlines the mandatory training and medical surveillance requirements for all individuals directly or indirectly exposed to OWP, their tissues, and/or their bodily fluids.

**Scope**

The University of California, San Francisco requires that all staff, volunteers and visitors working with or exposed to live old world primates or derived materials complete the outlined medical surveillance and training requirements.

**Exemption**

- I. Individuals from regulatory and accrediting agencies are exempt from these requirements.
- II. LARC cage wash and research personnel who share laboratory space with a live OWP lab are exempt from the medical surveillance requirements detailed in section C of this policy. They are required to complete all other procedures as outlined.
- III. Researchers only working with OWP tissue and/or bodily fluid are exempt from the procedures detailed in sections A and C of this policy. They are required to complete all other procedures as outlined.

**Required Procedures**

It is the responsibility of the manager/supervisor to ensure that all staff with direct or indirect exposure to live OWP and/or their derived materials is informed of the surveillance requirements. The manager/supervisor will also ensure that these requirements are fulfilled prior to beginning work and annually thereafter when required.

**A. Medical Health Screening (MHS) Questionnaire**

All individuals at UCSF directly or indirectly exposed to live OWP during their work are required to complete this questionnaire annually. Once the following outlined medical health surveillance and training results have been submitted, the Public Health Office will electronically submit an Animal Exposure Work Clearance to the individual and the individual's supervisor.

## **B. Training Requirements**

All personnel should refer to the [Herpes B Training Policy](#), for detailed information on required trainings.

## **C. Medical Surveillance Requirements**

All individuals with direct exposure to live OWP must participate in:

1. **Annual Tuberculosis Screening** – All individuals with direct exposure to live OWP must complete tuberculosis screening annually. Occupational Health Services (OHS) provides TB screening at no cost to the employee.
2. **Measles (Rubeola) Immunity Screening** – All individuals with direct exposure to live OWP must provide one-time proof of measles (rubeola) immunity. Individuals may visit the Occupational Health Services (OHS) to be vaccinated, or to have a blood sample drawn to measure antibody titer levels. In addition, individuals may provide documentation of two (2) monovalent measles vaccines, documentation of two (2) MMR vaccines, or documentation of positive antibody titer levels.

**Documentation** – Tuberculosis and/or measles screening documentation should be sent via email or mail to the UCSF Public Health Office.

- a. Email: [PublicHealthOffice@ucsf.edu](mailto:PublicHealthOffice@ucsf.edu)

## **D. Medical Alert Card**

While prevention of Herpes B Virus disease is paramount, it is also important to know how to handle exposures. For this reason all employees must carry medical alert cards on their person at all times. In the event that an employee has an exposure or develops any unexplained illness, she/he must present this card to a medical health professional.

This card is provided to the employee at the time of in-person training. Please contact the Public Health Office if you need a replacement Herpes B Medical Alert Card.

## **For Additional Information**

Contact the Public Health Office:

Office of Environmental Health and Safety  
490 Illinois St. San Francisco CA, 94158  
Phone: (415) 514-3531

Email: [PublicHealthOffice@ucsf.edu](mailto:PublicHealthOffice@ucsf.edu)

## **References**

For further information regarding any of the above requirements please see the:

- Institutional Biosafety Committee Policy on Tuberculosis (TB) Surveillance
- Institutional Biosafety Committee Policy on Measles Immunity