Animal Facility Security--- Working Safely in Animal Facilities

The security of an animal facility is viewed from both biological and physical perspectives. The DLAR policies on work behavior in the animal facilities are designed to prevent disruption of animal research programs and avoid the introduction of diseases into animal colonies. Please share this information with your UT laboratory colleagues who interact with the animal facilities.

Entry / Access Security

- All personnel entering the animal facility must have official DLAR authorization.
- UT picture ID must be displayed while entering and working in animal facilities.
- Pass cards must never be loaned to other personnel.
- Do not admit unauthorized persons into an animal facility. Contact DLAR if unsure.
- All guests entering the animal facility must check in at the DLAR office with their host and sign the visitor log. Only essential personnel should be permitted entry.
- Photography is not allowed in animal research facilities without DLAR permission.
- Within the animal facility, enter only those areas which are necessary for your work and which you have been trained to work in. Some areas are restricted due to colony health status. Observe all posted notices at entrances to hallways and rooms.
- Service personnel should not enter the animal facility without contacting DLAR staff and obtaining current information on proper apparel and work behavior.
- Possessing a key to the animal facility does not imply entry authorization.
- Vandalism of research facilities has occurred at dozens of locations in the US.

Biological Security

- Bacteria and viruses can hitchhike on clothing, shoes, hands and hair. If you are concerned about your shoes, disinfect them or wear shoe covers.
- Think carefully about entering the animal facility just after being in spaces with high risks of rodent contamination (garages, yards, dumpsters, storage and service areas).
- Do not keep rodents of any kind as pets if you frequent an animal facility.
- Always wear clean lab coats or scrubs when you visit the animal facility. These
garments are meant to protect both the animals and the wearers.

- Adhere to all Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) requirements posted for rooms and work zones. Please consult with DLAR staff for questions about proper apparel.
- Sanitize equipment that you bring to the animal facility, including transport carts and their wheels. DLAR can advise you on the best, practical agents to use.
- All personnel in contact with UT research animals are required to have training.
- Any removal or return of animals from the animal facility must be authorized by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and DLAR staff.

Please REPORT any variations from security policy and any other security concerns to DLAR at: 419-383-4310

For after hours or in an emergency contact Campus Police:

| MAIN CAMPUS DISPATCH | 419.530.2600 |
| HEALTH SCIENCE CAMPUS DISPATCH | 419.383.2600 |

Chemistry and Hematology available in-house with VetScan® equipment in DLAR

Contact Merle Heineke or Kathy Goans if you would like to be certified to use the equipment. The chem panel requires only a few drops of blood for a standard 12 value report. For more details about this equipment visit [www.abaxis.com](http://www.abaxis.com) and read about the VetScan VS2 and HM5 analyzers. Investigators may purchase their own chem. “rotors” or purchase them at a small mark-up from DLAR. Rotors are available for mammals (complete profile, liver profile) and birds and reptiles.