

Washington University in St. Louis  
Institutional Biological & Chemical Safety Committee

**Medical Surveillance Policy**

All employees in research laboratories are trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of the agent with which they work and are instructed to report to Student & Employee Health or Washington University's contracted occupational health provider if they suspect that they are infected with their research organism, even in the absence of an overt exposure or accident. All employees are instructed that certain medical conditions increase their risk of potential health problems when working with pathogenic microorganisms and/or animals. These conditions can include: pregnancy, immunosuppression, animal related allergies, and chronic skin conditions. Employees are instructed to inform their personal physician/health care professional about their work if any of these conditions apply. Additionally, following any incident or suspected laboratory-acquired infection, employees will report to Student & Employee Health or Washington University's contracted occupational health provider for medical evaluation. Employees must also follow the Incident Reporting Policy. The medical professionals at Student & Employee Health or the contract occupational health provider will determine the need for post-exposure prophylaxis, treatment, and continued medical surveillance at that time. Employees must notify the medical professionals if the agent involved is modified in any way to allow the medical professionals to treat the agent appropriately. The Principal Investigator or Biosafety Officer may be required to provide additional information about agent modifications and their potential effects on treatment. The need for serum banking for personnel working in BSL3 or ABSL3 facilities will be determined by the PI in collaboration with the medical professionals in Student & Employee Health or the contract occupational health provider. All medical surveillance and counseling will be conducted in accordance with Washington University's HIPAA Privacy Policies.