

SOP: **SA-01**

Title: **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

SOP Last Revision Date:
08JUL09

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to describe the method for detecting external parasites. This SOP applies to animals housed at the Laboratory Animal Research Core's animal facilities on the campus of the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

POLICY

It is LARC policy to meet or exceed all federal, state, local regulations and institutional policies/procedures as they apply to the use of animals in research. Personnel must attend any applicable training in animal care and use, occupational health and safety, equipment operation, and Standard Operating Procedures prior to performing activities outlined in this SOP or work under the direct supervision of a trained LARC staff member.

REFERENCES

- A. Laboratory Animal Research Core Personnel
- B. *The Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals "The Guide"*
- C. NIOSH Publication No. 97-116 – "Preventing Asthma in Animal Handlers"

PROCEDURES

A. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Order of Donning For ALL Areas of the Animal Facility

FIRST	=	Bouffant Cap
2 nd	=	Mask
3 rd	=	Shoe Covers
4 th	=	Gown
LAST	=	Gloves

FIRST Bouffant Cap – This PPE protects the individual’s hair from particulate contamination and minimizes contamination of the environment by the individual.

SECOND Mask – A variety of masks are used in animal facilities. Dust masks and “respirator” masks provide moderate protection to the wearer against inhalation of particulates. Surgical masks, because they fit less tightly, typically provide less protection to the wearer. All of the masks minimize contamination of the environment by the wearer.

THIRD Shoe Covers – Lightweight fabric or plastic booties worn over shoes to prevent contamination of the shoes and to prevent contamination of the environment by material that may be on the shoes. Shoe covers are especially important in minimizing spread of contamination from area to area, provided they are removed and replaced appropriately.

FOURTH Disposable Isolation Gown – Lightweight fabric garment that covers the torso, chest and arms, usually worn over scrubs or street clothing. Typical isolation gowns minimize contamination of garments and skin beneath the gown by particulates and mists, they are not protection against liquids. Gowns should be removed once contaminated and discarded in appropriate biohazard or trash

container. Additionally, a new gown should be donned if an individual is transferring from a room of different species or each room poses risk of contaminating the other. Fabric Lab Coat – Same function as isolation gown. Fabric lab should not be brought to the animal facility because they may bear contaminants. Generally not disposable so must be laundered when contaminated.

LAST Disposable Laboratory Gloves – Gloves typically made of latex, nitrile, or vinyl, protects the wearer’s hands from contamination. Gloves are important in minimizing contamination from animal to animal or from area to area, provided they are removed and replaced appropriately.

Additional

Scrub Suit – Clothing, typically referred to as “scrubs,” worn in place of street clothing when handling potentially contaminated, and/or mildly messy, materials to avoid contamination of street clothing. Usually scrubs consist of lightweight, loose fitting, cotton shirt and pants.

Eye Protection – Eyeglasses or shields that protect the wearer’s eyes from splashes and particulates should be worn by individuals working with chemical/biological agents at all times.

Ear Protection – Ear muffs or similar device to protect wearer’s hearing should be worn if hearing is at risk do to high volumes of sound.

B. PPE Disposal

- i. Disposable PPE may be discarded in routine trash bins unless contaminated, i.e. the presence of known or suspected blood, chemicals, tissues, animal waste, radioactive etc. on garments. Contaminated garments are to be placed in a biohazard bag for appropriate disposal.
- ii. All disposable PPE must be discarded prior to exiting the animal facility.

C. Protective Clothing Requirements

Question: Who should wear scrub suits in lieu of street clothing?

Answer: Any person who feels more comfortable in a scrub suit rather than their street clothing. The below can be used as a guide.

High Risk: Animal Care Staff, for example, should wear scrub suits because they work in animal facilities several hours at a stretch, and they often handle animals or items contaminated with materials of animal origin.

Low Risk: Individuals entering LARC facilities for inspections or observation, e.g. IACUC members, management, federal or accreditation inspectors, etc. generally do not need to don a scrub suit because their risk of contamination is lower. They may wear an isolation gown over street clothes prior to entering occupied rooms.

Intermediate Risk: Investigative Staff members should don a scrub suit in lieu of street clothing when they will be in animal facilities for prolonged periods, say more than an hour, or when the nature of procedures performed poses a significant risk of clothing becoming contaminated with animal dander, hair, secretions and/or excretions.

Question: Where and when should one wear an Isolation Gown, Mask, Bouffant Cap, Disposable Laboratory Gloves and Shoe Covers?

Answer: Anytime an individual enters any LARC facility they must wear all these materials.