ANIMAL BITES AND SCRATCHES

✓ Know the behavior of the species you are working with and use proper animal handling and restraint techniques
✓ Use personal protective equipment
✓ Contact Laboratory Animal Medical Services (LAMS) at 558-5171 or 558-5518 (after-hours) if you have any questions.

NEEDLE STICKS

✓ DO NOT RECAP NEEDLES
✓ Follow OSHA Universal Precautions Guidelines (Contact UHS for a copy)
✓ In case of a needle stick:
  ➢ Cleanse the wound and irrigate immediately
  ➢ Call UHS at 584-STIX (584-7849) to report the incident.
  ➢ Complete form 1352(a)

CHEMICAL/RADIATION/ BIOHAZARD EXPOSURE

✓ Cleaners/disinfectants - contact your supervisor for training or to report an injury
✓ Specialized training and incident reporting is required if chemical agents, radiation sources (including radioactive material or radiation generating equipment), or biohazard agents are used in conjunction with animals
✓ For questions, to arrange training, or to report an incident call:
  ➢ Chemical agents 556-4968
  ➢ Radiation sources 558-4110
  ➢ Biohazardous agents 558-6182
## Health Risks Associated with Animal Research
- Allergies
- Zoonotic Diseases
- Bites & Scratches
- Needle Sticks
- Hazards (biological, chemical, environmental, physical, radiological)

## Staff Responsibilities

### Supervisors and PIs
- Inform your staff of potential risks associated with exposure to animals
- Report injuries or illnesses to UHS
- Refer staff to UHS for evaluation when employee exposure to animal-related activities changes

### Staff
- Must use appropriate protective precautions
- Must report injuries and unsafe conditions to their supervisor and UHS and/or EHS

### Visitors (anyone not enrolled in UC’s Occupational Health & Safety Program)
- UC sponsor must inform visitors of their potential risks and must review this document with them
- Visitors must be under direct supervision of an IACUC approved animal user
- Visitors from other institutions must participate in their own institution’s Occupational Health & Safety Program

## What You Need to Know to Protect Yourself

### GENERAL PRECAUTIONS
- Use good personal hygiene practices
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Use personal protective equipment
- When in doubt ask questions
- Report any incidents/injuries regardless of how minor you consider it.

### ALLERGIES/ALLERGENS
- Use of personal protective equipment (respiratory protection, gloves, animal-specific gown) greatly decreases your risk of developing allergies
- If you experience breathing difficulty, sneezing, itchy eyes, runny nose, or a rash when in contact with animals, notify your supervisor and complete form 1352(a). A UHS physician will review the form and determine if further medical attention is necessary.

### ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS
- Hazards include wet floors, heavy equipment, and dark rooms
- Request training before using new equipment or performing unfamiliar tasks
- Report potential hazards
- Exercise caution in areas of known risk.
- If you are injured, seek emergency medical attention indicated on the cover of this pamphlet

### ANESTHETIC GAS USE
- Isoflurane is a reproductive hazard
- Use of a waste gas scavenging is required

## ZOONOTIC DISEASES
- Any disease that can be passed from animals to humans
- While the majority of animals housed at UC pose little health risk, there are instances where the likelihood of zoonotic disease increases

### Activities that increase the risk of zoonosis
- Contact with Feral Animals
- Contact with Random Source Carnivores
- Exposure to Pregnant Ruminants

If you suspect you may have been exposed to or contracted a disease from an animal, notify your supervisor and complete form 1352(a). A UHS physician will review the form and determine if further medical attention is necessary.

### ZOONOSES BY SPECIES

**Amphibians/Reptiles** – Salmonella
- Birds – Avian flu, Psitticosis, Toxoplasmosis
- Cats – Allergies, Rabies, Roundworms, Ringworm, Cat-scratch fever, Toxoplasmosis
- Cattle – Cryptosporidium, Ringworm
- Dogs – Allergies, Rabies, Roundworms, Ringworm
- Pigs – Swine flu
- Rabbits – Allergies, Ringworm
- Rodents (lab bred) – Allergies, Rat bite fever
- Rodents (wild) – Allergies, Hanta virus, Lymphocytic choriomeningitis, Rabies
- Sheep/goats – Q fever, Orf, Brucellosis
- Fish – Mycobacterial dermatitis