

1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the proper attire required for working in designated animal areas.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Principal investigator (PI) and their research staff, animal care staff, veterinarian, veterinary care staff, facility supervisor/manager and anyone entering an animal facility.

3. PROCEDURES

- 3.1. Individual clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements are determined by the following:
 - 3.1.1. Risk assessment of the workplace, the task, and the associated hazards
 - 3.1.2. Review of Safety Data Sheets (SDS) or other suitable information
 - 3.1.3. Assessment by the Occupational Health Program
 - 3.1.4. McGill University Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) recommendations.
- 3.2. Wear appropriate attire to enter animal areas:
 - 3.2.1. Closed-toed and closed-heeled shoes. Sandals, clog style shoes, and open-toed shoes are not permissible.
 - 3.2.2. No shorts, capri pants, or short skirts.
- 3.3. Consult appropriate signage at the entrance of the room or facility for any specific PPE requirements. Wear all the prescribed PPE.
- 3.4. PPE designated for animal areas should not be worn in public areas.
- 3.5. Outer protective clothing, e.g., lab coat, gown:
 - 3.5.1. Wear outer protective clothing whenever there is contact with animals, urine, feces, blood, or other biological fluids, infectious, chemical, or radioactive hazards.
 - 3.5.2. Keep clean outer clothes readily available and change as often as needed.
 - 3.5.3. Provide laundry service at the workplace for reusable clothing.
 - 3.5.4. Restrict clothes to a given group of animals with the same health status.
 - 3.5.5. Do not wear outer clothes outside the facility.
- 3.6. Gloves:
 - 3.6.1. Wear gloves whenever there is contact with animals, urine, feces, blood, or other biological fluids, infectious, chemical, or radioactive hazards.
 - 3.6.2. Change gloves frequently to minimize fomite contamination within the animal room. Consider the use of double gloves, i.e., outer and inner pairs, for additional protection and/or for preventing contamination of surfaces by changing outer gloves frequently while maintaining protection with the inner gloves.
 - 3.6.3. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water, or use an alcohol sanitizer, at the end of the procedure or upon leaving the facility.
- 3.7. Mucous membrane/respiratory protection:
 - 3.7.1. Utilize a face mask if there is a risk of splashing or droplet exposure to mucous membranes or when there is possible exposure to animal allergens.
 - 3.7.2. N95 respirators are mandatory in specific areas where they are required to protect the health of animals. N95 respirators may be recommended in other areas.

- 3.7.3. EHS may be consulted to determine the need for respiratory protection against airborne hazardous materials and allergens. Respiratory protection includes disposable respirators such as N95 filtering face pieces.
- 3.8. Ocular/Facial Protection:
 - 3.8.1. Wear protective glasses or a face shield whenever there is a risk of exposure or physical injury to the face/eyes.
 - 3.8.2. Prescription eyeglasses used to correct vision are not considered protective; wear additional protective glasses or protective glasses and a face shield.
- 3.9. Foot Protection:
 - 3.9.1. Wear disposable shoe covers whenever working with:
 - 3.9.1.1. Infected animals or their waste
 - 3.9.1.2. Infectious or radioactive hazards
 - 3.9.2. CSA-approved protective footwear are recommended when working with large animals, e.g., primates or farm animals, or heavy cages or equipment.
- 3.10. Head/Hair Protection:
 - 3.10.1. Wear disposable bouffant cap where indicated.
 - 3.10.2. Ensure that cap covers all hair.
- 3.11. Hearing Protection:
 - 3.11.1. Hearing protection will be made available to personnel when working in areas or facilities where noise may be a concern, e.g., areas with large numbers of dogs or chickens, cage washing equipment.
- 3.12. Heat Protection:
 - 3.12.1. Wear heat protection gloves when removing items from the cage washer or the autoclave at the end of the cycle.

SOP REVISION HISTORY

DATE	NEW VERSION
2023.09.07	2. RESPONSIBILITY Principal investigator (PI) and their research staff, animal care staff, veterinarian , veterinary care staff, facility supervisor/manager and anyone entering an animal facility.
2023.09.07	3.1.2. Review of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS SDS) or other suitable information
2023.09.07	3.2. Wear appropriate attire to enter animal areas: 3.2.1. Closed-toed and closed-heeled shoes. Sandals, clog style shoes, and open-toed shoes are not permissible. 3.2.2. No shorts, capri pants, or short skirts. no sandals (including open-back shoes), no shorts, capri pants, or short skirts.
2023.09.07	3.3. Consult appropriate signage at the entrance of the room or facility for any specific PPE requirements. Wear all the prescribed PPE.
2023.09.07	3.4. Clothing and PPE designated for animal areas should not be worn in public areas.
2023.09.07	3.5. Outer protective clothing, e.g., lab coat, gown : 3.5.1. Wear dedicated work clothes or outer protective clothing (e.g., lab coat, scrubs, gown, Tyvek® suit) in animal facilities, especially when in contact with: 3.5.1.1. Infected animals, their waste or bodily fluids 3.5.1.2. Infectious, radioactive or chemical hazards 3.5.1.3. Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) animals maintained in a barrier facility whenever there is contact with animals, urine, feces, blood, or other biological fluids, infectious, chemical, or radioactive hazards. 3.5.2. Keep clean clothes readily available and change as often as needed. 3.5.3. Provide laundry service at the workplace for reusable clothing. 3.5.4. Restrict clothes to a given group of animals with the same health status (e.g., same room, same herd, similar infectious status). 3.5.5. Do not wear these outer clothes outside the facility (i.e., in public areas). 3.5.2. Cover legs, feet, and arms when working with chemical, infectious, or radioactive hazards.
2023.09.07	3.6.1. Wear gloves whenever there is contact with animals , urine, feces, blood, or other biological fluids, infectious, chemical, or radioactive hazards.
2023.09.07	3.7.1. Utilize a face mask if there is a risk of splashing or droplet exposure to mucous membranes or when there is possible exposure to animal allergens.
2023.09.08	3.7.2. N95 respirators are mandatory in specific areas where they are required to protect the health of animals. N95 respirators may be recommended in other areas.

2023.09.08	3.7.3. Consult with EHS may be consulted to determine the need for respiratory protection against airborne hazardous materials and allergens. Respiratory protection includes disposable respirators such as N95 filtering face pieces.
2023.09.08	3.9.2. Dedicated working shoes or shoe covers are recommended when working with SPF animals inside a barrier. These working shoes should not be worn outside the facility.
2023.09.08	3.9.2. Shoes with protective steel caps CSA-approved protective footwear are recommended when working with large animals, e.g., primates or farm animals , or heavy cages or equipment .
2023.09.08	3.10.1. Wear disposable bouffant cap whenever working with: indicated 3.10.1.1. Infected animals or their waste 3.10.1.2. Infectious or radioactive hazards
2023.09.08	3.11.1. Hearing protection may be necessary will be made available to personnel when working in areas or facilities where noise may be a concern, e.g., areas with large numbers of dogs or chickens, cage washing equipment.
2023.09.08	3.11.2. Personnel who are exposed to noise levels over 90 decibels (dBA) or greater, averaged over an eight-hour work day, will need to consult with EHS.