



BIOSAFETY BASICS

A Safety Training Curriculum for Researchers at UTHealth Houston

Presented by UTHealth Houston Office of Environmental Health and Safety

Prerequisite Training

As a prerequisite to this Biosafety Basics training curriculum, all research personnel should take the Initial and Annual Refresher Laboratory Safety & Bloodborne Pathogens Training course which covers:

- Overview of general safety aspects in the workplace
- Description of occupant's evacuation procedures for fire alarm events
- Description of common workplace chemical & biological hazards, and how to work with these hazardous agents safely
- Description of the Texas Hazard Communication Act (HazCom)
- Description of the Bloodborne Pathogen Standard (BBP)
- Understand basics of tuberculosis and infection control
- Description of hazardous waste storage and disposal procedures

Goal of this Biosafety Basics Training

- Provide more in-depth knowledge of laboratory practices to promote safety when working with biological agents and potentially infectious materials
- Provide resources for compliance with University policies in regard to biosafety

Biosafety Basics: Modules

Module 1: Biosafety Fundamentals

- Agent Risk Groups, Risk Assessment, Biosafety Containment Levels, Best Practices and Personal Protective Equipment

Module 2: Regulations and Committees

- BMBL, NIH Guidelines and Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)

Module 3: Containment

- Aerosol Generating Activities
- Biological Safety Cabinets (BSCs)
- Safety Centrifuges
- Flow Cytometry

Module 4: Decontamination, Disinfection and Sterilization and Waste Management

- Selecting the appropriate disinfectant
- Biohazard waste management and regulations

Proficiency in the Laboratory

Per the UTHealth Houston Biosafety Manual:

The PI is fully responsible for the safe use of such agents handled by himself/herself and handled by those under his/her direction.

Personally train or arrange for the training of all employees and students within 10 days of employment regarding the specific safety techniques and practices to be used in the laboratory. Each person's proficiency with these tasks must be demonstrated to the PI prior to working with any infectious agent. The PI is also responsible for verifying each person's continued proficiency in applicable biological safety practices.

Link to [UTHealth Houston Biosafety Manual](#)

Questions

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the UTHealth Houston [Biological Safety Program](#) at 713-500-8170

