

# Biosafety in the Laboratory



## Personal Protection Equipment

### LAB COAT



- +** Lab coats must be worn and fastened until all experiments have been completed
- Laboratory clothing must not be worn outside the laboratory

### GLOVES



- +** Gloves must be worn when handling infectious material
- +** Gloves must be removed and properly disposed of before leaving the laboratory

### EYE AND FACE PROTECTION



- +** Eye (or face) protection must be worn when there is a potential risk of splashes or flying objects

### FOOTWEAR



- +** Suitable footwear with closed toes and heels must be worn in the laboratory

### Hygiene Practices



- +** Tie back long hair
- Wearing jewellery is not recommended in the laboratory
- +** Cover any open wounds, cuts, or scratches with water-proof dressings

## Laboratory work area

### ⊗ Actions that are never permitted in the laboratory work area



**⊗** Never apply cosmetics



**⊗** Never smoke



**⊗** Never remove or insert contact lenses



**⊗** Never eat  
Never store food or drinks, personal belongings, or utensils



**⊗** Never drink  
Never mouth pipette any substance

### Hand Washing



- +** Hand washing is the most important practice
- +** Hands must be washed after the removal of gloves
- +** Hand washing must last as long as it takes to hum the happy birthday song to yourself – twice!

### Cleanup and Disposal Procedures



**+** Work surfaces must be cleaned thoroughly with a suitable disinfectant at the end of every experiment as well as after any spill



**+** Most glassware, instruments and laboratory clothing can be reused or recycled after appropriate decontamination



**+** Equipment should be decontaminated when work is completed. Broken glass must be disposed of in a puncture resistant sharps container

### Emergency Procedures **+** Report any lab incident immediately to the laboratory manager



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