

## BIOLOGICAL AGENT REFERENCE SHEET

### *Wild Caught Rodents in Laboratories*

CHARACTERISTICS	
<i>Wild Rodents</i>	Wild rodents can be infected with Sin Nombre (Hantavirus), Plague, Lymphocytic Choriomeningitis, Rat Bite Fever ( <i>S. moniliformis</i> or <i>S. minus</i> ), Salmonella, Tularemia, Rabies, Leptospira, <i>T. mentagrophytes</i>
<i>Host</i>	Rats, mice

HEALTH HAZARDS	
<i>Host Range</i>	Rodents; risk varies based on species and geographic location
<i>Mode of Transmission</i>	Bite, scratch, aerosols, contact with mucous membranes, flea/tick bite
<i>Signs and Symptoms</i>	Varies
<i>Infectious Dose</i>	Varies
<i>Incubation Period</i>	Varies

MEDICAL PRECAUTIONS / TREATMENT	
<i>Prophylaxis</i>	
<i>Vaccines</i>	None
<i>Treatment</i>	Notify vet and OHP physician; take this document to treatment facility.
<i>Medical Surveillance</i>	Report signs and symptoms to OHP immediately.
<i>Assessment</i>	Consult with attending veterinarian. Personnel should review signs and symptoms of regional zoonosis

LABORATORY HAZARDS	
<i>Lab Acquired Infections (LAIs)</i>	Hantavirus: 226 cases, Yersinia: 10 cases, LCMV: 76 cases, Leptospira: 67 cases, RBF: 8 cases
<i>Sources</i>	

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES	
<i>Canada BDS</i>	
<i>BMBL: 5<sup>th</sup> Ed.</i>	
<i>Other Guidelines</i>	

CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS	
<i>BSL</i>	Conduct risk assessment.
<i>ABSL</i>	ABSL-2 (may downgrade to ABSL-1 based on risk assessment and IBC approval)

SPILL PROCEDURES	
<i>Small</i>	Notify others in lab. Cover spill with paper towels and apply disinfectant. Allow 30 minutes contact time before cleaning up spill. Dispose of all cleanup materials as biohazardous.
<i>Large</i>	Contact EHS – 471-3511

EXPOSURE PROCEDURES	
<i>Mucous Membrane</i>	Flush eyes for 15 minutes at eyewash
<i>Other Exposures</i>	Wash exposed area with soap and water for 5 minutes
<i>Reporting</i>	Isolate animal for testing. Report exposure to supervisor ASAP, notify OHP, complete injury form.
<i>Occupational Health</i>	HealthPoint – 471-4647 (available 24/7)

VIABILITY	
<i>Disinfection</i>	Clidox, Dispatch or fresh 10% bleach solution; all traps should be disinfected.
<i>Inactivation</i>	
<i>Survival Outside Host</i>	May be in excreted in bedding (feces, urine, saliva)

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	
<i>Minimum PPE Requirements</i>	Gloves, lab coats, closed-toed shoes, eye/face protection, and N-95 respirator
<i>Additional Precautions</i>	Animal isolation, microisolator cages, avoid urine and fecal build-up, avoid any unnecessary work time in animal room

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS	
	Treat all wild rodents as potential sources of disease. Practice good personal hygiene. Wash hands before and after contact. Do not enter lab if sick.