

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, Voles and Singing 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>	Rabies pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
<i>Vaccines</i>	Tetanus (Bites) If no booster within five years
<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

ANIMAL-RELATED ALLERGIES / ASTHMA	
<i>Symptoms</i>	Chest tightness, itchy-watery eyes, itchy-runny nose, rash or hives, shortness of breath, wheezing.
<i>Protection from Allergen Exposure</i>	Use biosafety cabinet when performing animal manipulations and/or handling bedding. Use ventilated animal cage racks. Wear PPE including the use of respirator protection.

INCREASED RISK OF SEVERE ZONOTIC ILLNESS	
<i>Immune Suppressing Conditions</i>	Pregnancy, type 1 diabetes, lupus, inflammatory bowel disease, HIV infection
<i>Immune Suppressing Medication</i>	Corticosteroids, biological medications targeting immune system

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)

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES	
Canada BSDS	
BMBL: 6 th Ed	
Other guidelines	

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 – 512-471-3511

EXPOSURE PROCEDURES	
<i>Mucous Membrane</i>	Flush eyes for 15 minutes and 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- 512-471-4647 (available 24/7)

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

VIABILITY	
<i>Disinfection</i>	Clidox®, Peroxigard® or fresh 10% bleach solution; all traps should be disinfected.
<i>Survival Outside of Host</i>	May be in excreted in bedding (feces, urine, saliva). May be spread by arthropod vector.

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.	