

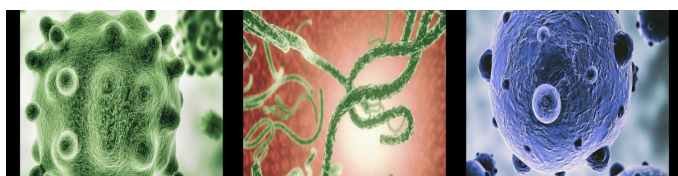
Health & Safety Bulletin



Issue 21

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Biological Safety Unit



New BA and GM risk assessment forms on the Biosafety Unit website

The new biological agent (BA) risk assessment and genetically modified organism (GM) risk assessment forms are on the website. Best practice is to use the new forms which can be found on the BSU website at www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/biosafety/forms/risk-assessments.

Register pathogens and toxins using Retain on the Biosafety Unit website

RETAIN is now accessible for Schools and Principal Investigators to register their pathogen and toxin hazards. The Retain system portal and associated guidance can be found on the BSU website at www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/biosafety/policy/guidance/retain.

New e-learning biological safety training course launched

The Biosafety Unit provides training all year round on all the main campuses of the University. We deliver these three training courses either online or face to face: (1) Introduction to biological safety course (e-learning course available through Learn); (2) Biological and genetic modification safety course (seminar course); and (3) Transport of biological materials course (seminar course). Please have a look at the training page of the BSU website for further details at www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/biosafety/training.

HSE inspection of containment level 3 laboratories and Larger GMO facilities.

The HSE visited the University over five days from 30th October to 3rd November to carry out a planned inspection of containment level 3 laboratories and a sample of GM animal and GM plant facilities. The inspection went very well and the inspector expressed a very positive overall view about the safety management and gave verbal advice about control measures in certain activities. Thanks again to everyone involved in the inspection and behind the scenes.

Update on COSHH Health Passport System



The IS project to design and build the system is now finished and the final code has been deployed to live.

As well as acting as the COSHH health record for staff who require one, the system will also act as entry control to all CBS managed animal facilities, to replace their current paper based system.

We are rolling the system out within the CBS animal facilities in the next few months and if any other non-CBS staff will be involved or affected, they will be contacted via their School Safety Adviser/Health and Safety Manager.

User guides and process flow charts have been published at <http://edin.ac/2CC2JI5> - this page also describes the purpose of the system and details information that all Researchers need to be aware of prior to accessing it.

As is highlighted in the user guides, CBS may restrict access to their animal facilities if Researchers do not comply with the entry requirements. However, in the short term whilst we are embedding the system and processes, no access will be restricted to any staff or students who currently have access, although normal CBS disciplinary processes will remain in place and be followed as required.

Once the system is embedded within CBS, we will begin the further roll out at School level. We would therefore ask that staff and students **do not** access the system until specifically asked to do so. This will enable us to manage the roll out and any training that may be required.

Save the Date

The Health and Safety Department will be hosting our next Health and Safety conference for School and Local Safety Advisers in the Informatics Forum, on the morning of Tuesday 20th March 2018 followed by a networking lunch. A formal invite, with a link to booking on the conference via MyEd, will follow in due course with the conference programme. Hope to see as many of you there as possible.

New radiation guidance

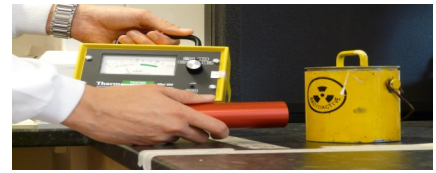
Radiation Protection Unit

The regulations surrounding work with ionising radiation, including medical exposures, and work with radioactive substances is changing in 2018. The 1st of January 2018 and the 6th February will see a series of key radiation-related regulations coming into force including, in particular:

- **The Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17)** will replace the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 (IRR99)
- The **Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EAR18)** will repeal the Radioactive Substances Act 1993 (RSA93) **AND** revoke the Radioactive Substances Exemption (Scotland) Order 2011
- **The Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2018 (IR[ME]R)** will replace the existing Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations 2000

The University Radiation Protection Unit (RPU) are digesting the raft of new regulations and will update guidance in due course. Some of the key changes proposed are:

- [IRR17] Reduction in the dose limit for exposure to the lens of the eye from 150mSv to 20mSv
- [IRR17] Changes to how employers tell the HSE about their work with ionising radiation – employers will need to Notify (low risk), Register (medium risk) or get Consent (high risk) via a HSE online service
- [EAR18] New four-tier system regulating environmental authorisation: General Binding Rules (GBRs), Notification, Registration, Permitting; with a permit being assigned to high risk categories and GBRs to low risk categories
- [EAR18] Certificates of Registration and Authorisation will be replaced by permits
- [EAR18] 'Exemption Order' conditions likely to be captured, in the main, by GBRs
- [IRMER] Some duties may be transferred to 'owners' of medical equipment which would see some requirements placed on the University rather than the NHS in some of the shared spaces within the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine and Deaneries within the College.



Radiation Protection Supervisors

Radiation Protection Code of Practice Updates

The Radiation Protection Unit has produced a Code of Practice for Radiation Protection Supervisors (RP CoP001 – Radiation Protection Supervisors) which details the role, training, duties and information on how an RPS is appointed.

RP CoP003 (Contamination Monitoring Procedures in Research Laboratories) has been updated and this now supersedes any earlier versions. This version is a more comprehensive Code of Practice and includes details on personal contamination monitoring.

To view all Radiation Protection Codes of Practice please visit:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/radiation-protection/policy-guidance/codes-of-practice>

The RPU has started the process of making the Proposed Scheme of Work forms available in electronic form, this will allow PSoW's to be filled in and submitted electronically. Please visit:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/radiation-protection/tools-forms/tools>

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Forthcoming Training Courses

- Laser Safety - Tuesday 6th March 2018, <http://edin.ac/2CRpW9a>
- Basic Course in Radiation Protection in Teaching and Research - 28th February and 7th March 2018, <http://edin.ac/2CSC2Po>
- Biological and GM Safety - Wednesday 14th February, Little France, Wednesday 28th February, Central Area, Wednesday 14th March, Easter Bush and Wednesday 28th March, WGH, <http://edin.ac/2E2wQdk>

For more information on H&S training courses go to www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/training