

## HEALTH AND SAFETY DEPARTMENT

All Heads of Schools/Deaneries in the Colleges of M&VM and S&E with staff and students who may be exposed to laboratory animal allergens.

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

The University of Edinburgh Charles Stewart House 9-16 Chambers Street Edinburgh EH1 1HT

Telephone 0131 651 4255 Email Health.Safety@ed.ac.uk www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety

Dear Colleagues,

Health and Safety and the BVS Departments are very pleased to jointly announce the introduction of the new **University CoSHH Health Record Passport System (CHPS).** This new system will assist departments in complying with CoSHH Regulations and it also serves to facilitate access to BVS Units for staff and students across the University.

The new online system was piloted with staff and students over the last 10 months in one campus area and after feedback, it is ready to be rolled out. This will assist Schools in maintaining their health exposure records for staff and students alongside confirmation, where relevant, that health surveillance is in place. This new scheme was developed with a focus on laboratory animal allergens, but will be used to record any and all relevant health exposure (<a href="https://www.edweb.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/guidance/hazardous-substances/sensitisers">https://www.edweb.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/guidance/hazardous-substances/coshh</a>).

This will include all sensitisers as listed on the Health and Safety Executive website at <a href="http://www.hse.gov.uk/asthma/substances.htm">http://www.hse.gov.uk/asthma/substances.htm</a> and <a href="http://www.hse.gov.uk/skin/professional/causes/agentstable1.htm">http://www.hse.gov.uk/skin/professional/causes/agentstable1.htm</a>.

A significant positive benefit this scheme brings is that Managers of all BVS Units across the organisation can now see that staff/students have received all relevant information and training before they carry out the BVS induction and issue access to a Unit. All the relevant School Safety Managers have been involved and provided with training so will be able to ensure that staff/students are fully aware of the system and incorporate this into the local information and training for your School/Area.

IS were not able to deliver all of the recommendations we requested in this first phase so the next phase of development, which has now commenced, will see the system updated to automatically upload results of health surveillance along with a few functionality upgrades. Whilst the latter will remain a minor frustration for users for a short period,

I hope you will agree this is a significant step forward in introducing a consistent approach for Schools in the management of health exposure records across the whole University.

Further information on the CHPS can be found at <a href="https://www.edweb.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/online-resources/coshh-health-passport-system-chps">https://www.edweb.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/online-resources/coshh-health-passport-system-chps</a>.

We would like to thank you for your continued support of this system and the time and feedback from your staff.

Kind regards

Suzanne Thompson &

Director of Health and Safety Director of Bioresearch and Veterinary Services

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Lesley Penny

Cc School Safety Adviser/Managers in applicable areas