Principal Investigator: Date Approved:

**Biohazardous Animal: Necropsy**

This SOP applies to individuals performing necropsy of animals or tissues which have been exposed to human cells or tissues, infectious agents, viral vectors or other materials requiring ABSL2/2+ containment.

Handling sharp devices and necropsy tools to dissect potentially infected animal tissues increases the risk for percutaneous and aerosol exposures and for splash/spray incidents for individuals. Procedures must be performed within a biosafety cabinet to reduce the exposure risk

**Personal Protective Equipment**

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**Engineering Controls, Equipment, and Materials**

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| **Biosafety Cabinet (BSC)** | Enclosed, ventilated laboratory workspace that protects the worker from aerosols |
| **Necropsy Instruments** | Tools used for post-mortem evaluations (e.g., scalpels, scissors, knives, saws, forceps) |
| **Biohazard Waste Container and Bag** | Non-porous, leak-resistant, “biohazard”-labeled container lined with a red biohazard waste bag |
| **Biohazard Sharps Container** | Rigid, non-porous, leak-resistant, puncture-resistant container with a tight-fitting lid and appropriate label(s) |
| **Disinfectant** | Appropriate to the agent(s) (see Decontamination/Disinfection SOP) |

**Procedures**

1. Don and doff PPE according to instructions posted at facility entrances and exits
2. Follow all facility instructions while working within the necropsy location
3. Only open cages within a certified BSC
4. Perform all dissection procedures within a BSC (e.g., necropsy, tissue harvest)
5. Perform all perfusions in a chemical fume hood or a hard-ducted BSC
6. Wash and decontaminate reusable necropsy instruments with appropriate disinfectant
7. Dispose of non-reusable necropsy instruments as biohazard sharps waste immediately after use (see Sharps Medical Waste SOP)
8. Dispose of perishables used to perform the necropsy (e.g., gauze, paper towels, other absorbent materials) as hazardous waste
9. Dispose of animal tissues or carcass waste as “Biohazardous” waste
10. Wash hands with soap and water immediately after exiting facility
11. Transport harvested tissues following the Biohazardous Material Transport SOP

**Cautions and Considerations**

* IBC approval is required for all biohazardous animal procedures performed outside of a BSC
* Safer scalpel alternatives (e.g., blunt-tipped scissors and forceps) and syringe systems are recommended to minimize risk of percutaneous exposure
* Cut away from the non-dominant hand or use tools (e.g., forceps) instead of hands for stabilization
* Contact EHS Biosafety at 801-581-6590within 12 hours of an exposure to biohazardous materials