McMaster University
Medical Monitoring Program Information Sheet

The purpose of this document is to provide information on an agent/virus in order for all McMaster University staff and students to make an informed decision about entering our medical monitoring program.

Please review this document, print your name, sign and date the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement and then provide it to your supervisor.

HIV used at BSL 2 plus

The following summary is provided by the McMaster Biosafety Office.

For a complete copy of the excerpted text below please refer to: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/lab-bio/res/psds-ftss/msds84e-eng.php

HOST RANGE: Humans    MODE OF TRANSMISSION: Transmitted from person to person through direct exposure to infected body fluids (blood, semen) sexual contact, sharing unclean needles etc.; transplacental transfer can occur

Susceptible to many disinfectants - 1% sodium hypochlorite, 2% glutaraldehyde, formaldehyde, ethanol

PHYSICAL INACTIVATION: Effectiveness of 56·C - 60·C heat in destroying HIV in serum not certain, however, heating small volumes of serum for 30 min at 56·C before serologic testing reduces residual infectivity to below detectable level. Drying in environment causes rapid (within several hours) 90-99% reduction in HIV concentration

LABORATORY-ACQUIRED INFECTIONS: 5 reported laboratory acquired infections with HIV (splashing of infected materials, inapparent skin exposure, puncture wounds); 18 reported cases in health care workers worldwide. Blood, semen, vaginal secretions, CSF, other specimens containing visible blood, unscreened or inadequately treated blood products

PRIMARY HAZARDS: Direct contact with skin and mucous membranes of the eye, nose and mouth; accidental parenteral inoculation; ingestion; hazard of aerosols exposure unknown
SPECIAL HAZARDS: Extreme care must be taken to avoid spilling and splashing infected materials - virus should be presumed in/on all equipment and devices coming in direct contact with infected materials.

CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS: Biosafety level 2 practices, containment equipment and facilities for activities involving clinical specimens and non-cultured procedures (primary containment devices may be indicated eg. biological safety cabinets) and for activities involving non-human primates and any animals experimentally infected or inoculated with HIV; **Biosafety level 3 practices**, containment equipment and facilities for all work culturing HIV. Gloves should be worn when handling potentially infectious specimens, cultures or tissues; laboratory coats, gowns or suitable protective clothing should be worn. Keep hands away from the eyes, nose and mouth in order to avoid potential exposure of the mucous membranes; eye goggles or face shields may assist in accomplishing this objective.

The following summary is provided by Employee Health Services.

For a complete copy of the excerpted text below please refer to:

**Facts**

HIV - the **Human Immunodeficiency Virus** - is a virus that attacks the immune system, resulting in a chronic, progressive illness that leaves people vulnerable to opportunistic infections and cancers. When the body can no longer fight infection, the disease is known as AIDS, which stands for Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome. On average, it takes more than 10 years to progress from initial HIV infection to AIDS.

In order to be infected, the virus must enter a person's bloodstream (HIV cannot survive outside the body). HIV is transmitted from one person to another through:

- unprotected sexual intercourse (vaginal, anal or oral)
- shared needles or equipment for injecting drugs
- unsterilized needles for tattooing, skin piercing or acupuncture
- pregnancy, delivery and breast feeding (i.e., from an HIV-infected mother to her infant)
- occupational exposure in health care settings

**Symptoms**

Insidious onset with non-specific symptoms such as lymphadenopathy, anorexia, chronic diarrhea, weight loss, fever, and fatigue; opportunistic infections and malignant diseases without a known cause for immune deficiency. Incubation period - epidemiologic evidence suggests that duration from exposure to onset of symptoms has a minimum range from 6 months to more than 7 years.
**Diagnosis**
Diagnosis is through serological testing.

**Treatment**
Specific measures for the opportunistic diseases that result from AIDS; "Cocktail" multidrug treatment for HIV.

**Prevention**
If you are exposed to bodily fluids in an occupational setting, follow applicable health and safety guidelines and universal infection-control precautions (see universal infection-control precautions). If accidental exposure to these fluids occurs through a needle-stick or a sharp-object injury or through a skin puncture, follow organizational guidelines or, in the absence of guidelines, let the wound bleed freely and go to a hospital emergency room as soon as possible. Immunization for HIV is not available. Extreme care must be taken to avoid spilling and splashing infected materials - virus should be presumed in/on all equipment and devices coming in direct contact with infected materials.

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**Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement (“MUA”) for BSL2 Medical Monitoring Program**

**Note:** This MUA is to be signed by the employee/student and supervisor, filed and kept by the supervisor. It will be reviewed during the annual biosafety audit by the McMaster Biosafety office.

The employee/student named below acknowledges and agrees as follows:

- I have read and understand all of the information in this Medical Monitoring Information Sheet provided jointly by the McMaster Biosafety Office and Employee Health Services and reviewed the biologically hazardous agent to which I have potential exposure. **Initial here**

- I will report a pregnancy or a compromised immune system (due to medication {steroid or other immunosuppressive therapy}, organ transplant, chemotherapy or radiation therapy, HIV infection etc.) to my supervisor and X (graduate students) or Employee Health Services Occupational Health Nurse at ext. 20310 (faculty and staff) **Initial here**

- I will report an exposure to a biological agent to my supervisor immediately and complete a McMaster incident/accident report. **Initial here**

- I will report any illness that resembles the symptoms listed in this Medical Monitoring Information Sheet to my supervisor. **Initial here**
• I recognize my responsibility to observe all safety practices and precautions while present in the BSL2 laboratory. Initial here

• I am aware of, and wish to participate in, the medical monitoring program (RMM #605) for this biological level 2 agent. Please circle: [yes] [no] Initial here

Employee/Student print name: __________________________

Supervisor print name: __________________________

Signature: __________________________

Signature: __________________________

Date: __________________________

Date: __________________________