

Module 2:

AAALAC International's Expectations for an Occupational Health and Safety Program

(total of all submodules ~ 2 hours)

The *Guide* states that “an occupational health and safety program must be part of the overall animal care and use program.” This module describes the various components of an occupational health and safety program that are discussed in the *Guide* and provides additional insight into the National Research Council's (NRC) publication *Occupational Health and Safety in the Care and Use of Research Animals* (1997), an AAALAC International reference resource.

Submodule 2.a.:

Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (~1 hour)

Hazard identification and risk assessment are critical components of an effective occupational health and safety program. Keys to effectively identifying hazards in the animal facility and examples of ways to accomplish identification of both experimental and non-experimental hazards are provided. A detailed review of both job category and individual risk assessment is presented along with audience participation exercises in conducting risk assessments to help bring clarity to these essential concepts.

Submodule 2.b.:

Medical Surveillance and Preventive Medicine for Personnel (~0.5 hour)

This submodule reviews the four types of medical evaluations commonly seen as part of a medical surveillance program and discusses the appropriate application of each. The description of what constitutes a preventive medicine program for personnel includes discussions on immunizations, surveillance for zoonotic diseases, allergies, tuberculosis, and B-virus. Examples of the most frequently observed deficiencies for medical surveillance and preventive medicine programs are also provided.

Submodule 2.c.:

Personnel Training, Facilities, Monitoring Programs, and Personal Protective Equipment (~0.5 hour)

There are many considerations involved in the development of an occupational health and safety education and training program. This submodule describes some of the tools that AAALAC International site visitors use to evaluate the effectiveness of the education and training program and discusses the types of facilities and monitoring procedures that are expected to be present in support of the occupational health and safety program. A review of personal protective equipment (PPE) is provided along with exercises in evaluating the use of PPE from a risk assessment approach. In addition to showing the most frequently encountered PPE deficiencies, tips are provided on how to avoid common PPE mistakes.