

## **Vesicular Stomatitis Virus**

**Hazards:** Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) is a viral pathogen that primarily affects large animals like horses, cattle, and swine. In humans, most infections are non-symptomatic. In symptomatic infection, flu-like symptoms including fever, headache, fatigue, achiness, and nausea are common.

**Risks:** Transmission occurs through direct contact with infected animals, bites, scratches, and through the inhalation of infectious aerosols. The greatest risk of exposure is during cage changes where there is contact with contaminated bedding and cages.

**Precautions:** Wear PPE during cage changes (gloves, gown, and booties). Use a biosafety cabinet during cage changes. Follow ABSL-2 procedures for bedding disposal. Wash hands after work.

**Emergency Response:** If you are working in this area and develop symptoms or become exposed, tell your supervisor and report to Occupational Medicine. Potential exposures and illnesses must be reported to EHRS by your supervisor or manager.