Herpes simplex virus type 1 Tracer

Hazards: Herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) Tracer is based on the pathogenic virus of the same name but has been modified to express fluorescent proteins to enable neuronal tracing or mapping the cells of the brain. The tracer virus is considered infectious. Most infected individuals are asymptomatic, with cold sores being the most common symptom. Occasionally, HSV-1 may cause severe disease.

Risks: After administration to the animals, the risk of exposure to HSV-1 from handling the animals during cage change or bedding disposal is low.

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: In the event of an accidental needlestick, stop working, wash the injured area for 15 minutes, tell your supervisor, and report to Occupational Medicine. If you are working in this area and develop symptoms, tell your supervisor and report to Occupational Medicine. Potential exposures and illnesses must be reported to EHRS by your supervisor or manager.