

# QUICK REFERENCE: LABORATORY WORK WITH NON-HUMAN PRIMATE MATERIAL

## What is Non-human Primate Material??

Non-human primate (NHP) source material includes cells, blood, serum, tissues, feces, and body fluids (sputum, urine, saliva, etc.).

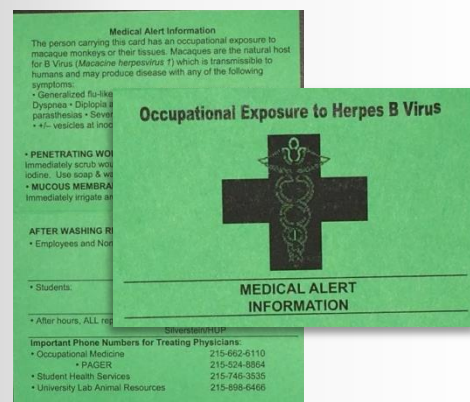
## Why is this material a potential risk?

All NHP materials are considered potentially infectious regardless of whether they are primary materials or commercially available. Materials from macaque monkeys, a genus of Old World monkeys, may harbor Herpes B virus (*Macacine herpesvirus 1*). Herpes B virus has an approximately 70% mortality rate in humans when not immediately treated. Various other zoonotic pathogens may be present depending on the type of NHP material being manipulated.



## Green Cards

Wallet-sized “Green Cards,” which describe procedures to follow in case of an exposure to NHP material, are available from EHRS and ULAR. These **cards should be carried by all researchers working with NHP material** and should be presented to a health care professional if an exposure occurs or herpes B symptoms develop.



## Safety Practices and Procedures

Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2) practices and procedures must be used when manipulating any NHP material. These include but are not limited to:

- ☠ Handling all material inside a certified biosafety cabinet when possible
- ☠ Reducing or eliminating the use of glass and sharp objects when possible
- ☠ Wiping down all surfaces with an appropriate disinfectant (i.e. 1:10 bleach solution)
- ☠ Disposing all used research materials through the infectious waste stream

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Long Pants and Closed Toed Shoes!
- Disposable gown
- Disposable nitrile gloves
- Eye protection according to splash risk
  - A *minimal splash risk* requires safety glasses
  - A *significant splash risk* may require goggles worn under a face shield

## Emergency Procedures

1. For an exposure to a mucous membrane (splash to eyes, nose, or mouth):

- Irrigate the exposed area with running water at an eyewash station for 10-15 minutes.

2. For a penetrating wound (cut, puncture, needle-stick):

- Immediately wash the injured area with soap, detergent or *povidone-iodine*
- Irrigate washed area with water for 15 to 20 minutes.

3. Immediately report ALL exposures or possible exposures to:

- Occupational Medicine (for Penn employees)  
HUP RAVDIN 2nd floor, 34th & Spruce Streets.
- Student Health (for Penn students)  
ProMed Building, Suite 100, 3535 Market St.
- HUP or Presbyterian Hospital ER (ALL after work hours and non-university affiliates)