Odoribacter spp.

Hazards: Odoribacteria are a group of bacteria that normally live in the intestines. They are associated with healthy digestion as well as blood glucose and blood pressure regulation. However, some are opportunistic pathogens associated with abscesses in humans and oral disease in companion animals. Infection may occur when bacteria grow too quickly.

Risks: Transmission occurs through the fecal-oral route, through contact with contaminated surfaces and objects, and through the ingestion of contaminated food or water. 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, tell your supervisor and report to Occupational Medicine. Potential exposures and illnesses must be reported to EHRS by your supervisor or manager.