

General Lab Rules for Molecular & Cellular Immunology Core Facility

1. Work with live and potentially infectious cell cultures is being performed in the core, therefore, general BSL-2 guidelines and protocols are observed followed.
2. Biological samples to and from the core will be transported in a secure secondary container that is clearly labeled and marked with a biohazard symbol.
3. All samples requiring BSL-2 measures are permitted to be analyzed ONLY on the FACS Aria using Aerosol Containment Feature.
All other potentially biologically infectious samples to be analyzed on other instruments MUST fixed and be able to be handled under BSL-1 conditions. It is up to the investigator/core user to determine which method to use to render the sample as BSL-1.
4. We practice guidelines and recommendations developed by International Society of Analytical Cytology (ISAC) for sorting of unfixed and potentially infectious cells, samples designates as BSL2: "... viable, unfixed samples that are potentially infectious be sorted at a minimum in a BSL-2 facility using BSL-3 work practices and BSL-3 personal protective equipment."
(<http://fhs.mcmaster.ca/safetyoffice/documents/ISACCellSortingGuidelines.pdf>)
5. Appropriate combinations of special protective clothing: N95 mask, eye-wear, gloves, gown, etc., are used for all sorting of potentially infectious samples. During such manipulation a sign will be posted on all entrances to the core prohibiting entrance without prior authorization and proper protective gear.
6. All procedures are performed carefully to minimize the creation of splashes or aerosols.
7. Gloves and disposable clothing are to be disposed into biohazard red collection bags.
8. Tips are to be disposed into approved biohazard tip collection containers.
9. No "dirty" gloves are to be used on computer surfaces.
10. Razor blades, scalpels, and hypodermic needles ("sharps") should be used only when absolutely needed in the core facility and if used disposed into proper "sharps" container. Plastic ware should be substituted for glassware whenever possible.
11. All cultures, stocks, and other regulated wastes are decontaminated before disposal by an approved decontamination method, such as autoclaving.
12. Work surfaces are decontaminated w/ 70% EtOH at least once a day and w/ 10% Bleach after any spill of viable material.
13. NO eating, drinking, smoking, handling contact lenses, or applying cosmetics in the core facility at any time.
14. Wash hands after handling biological materials, after removing gloves, and before leaving the laboratory.