

University of Pittsburgh Safety Manual	EHS Policy #	03-008
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ANIMAL EXPOSURE SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM.

All faculty, staff, postdoctoral fellows and students who work with animals and/or their body fluids, fresh tissues, bedding or caging must be enrolled in the Animal Exposure Surveillance Program. The Animal Exposure Surveillance Program allows the University to monitor your level of risk in using animals, to offer you appropriate prophylactic protection from diseases associated with animal use, and to monitor your health during employment at the University.

Enrollment is achieved by completing a questionnaire regarding your medical status, which is then utilized to identify health risks during a brief medical consultation with a University appointed clinician. Enrollment will be conducted by the University’s Employee Health Nurse at Employee Health Services, Medical Arts Building, 3708 Fifth Avenue, 5th Floor.

Upon enrollment in the Animal Exposure Surveillance Program, you will be screened for allergies to animals. Also upon enrollment, your risk of developing active tuberculosis will be assessed. The clinical staff member performing this assessment will determine the necessity for tuberculin screening. The screening will enable the University to identify past exposures to tuberculosis and develop a regimen of prophylaxis and/or treatment.

Your level of risk for exposure to other pathogens such as rabies, vaccinia, tetanus, hepatitis B and other human bloodborne pathogens will also be assessed during enrollment in the University’s Animal Exposure Surveillance Program. Additionally your level of risk for exposure to many zoonotic diseases (diseases naturally present in animals) will be assessed, including psittacosis, toxoplasmosis and Q fever. See supplemental table at end of document for more information on zoonoses.

All faculty and staff with exposure to human bloodborne pathogens will be entered in the University of Pittsburgh Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Program upon hire or upon initiating work with materials potentially containing bloodborne pathogens. All persons entered in this Program are offered the hepatitis B vaccination at no charge.