



Hazard Communication

Purpose: This communication serves to notify visitors of potential hazards within FAS animal facilities.

Hazards that can exist in animal facilities include, but may not be limited to, the following, which may cause serious injury or death:

- Animal allergens (you should not handle animals or animal-related materials without occupational medical approval if you have experienced allergic reactions to those species in the past)
- Flammable gases
- Compressed gas cylinders
- Anesthetic agents
- Protocol-related risks (e.g.: radioactive materials, toxic drugs/chemicals, infectious agents)
- Needles and other sharp objects
- Animal bites
- Dangers that exist from physical plant design or maintenance

Please read and carefully follow instructions provided on all signs posted in the facility. Under no circumstances are visitors permitted to enter animal rooms without authorization and escort.* Visitors are not eligible for Harvard health, disability or life insurance programs and will be personally responsible to pay for emergency room care, doctors' services, hospitalization they may require, and any other related costs, medical or non-medical they may incur, as a result of accessing FAS animal facilities.

If you have questions regarding any dangers that exist in FAS animal facilities, please contact the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee administrative office at iacuc@fas.harvard.edu or the Harvard Environmental Health & Safety office (lab_safety@harvard.edu or call 617-496-3797). Report any incidents or adverse reactions immediately to the facility supervisor/manager/director.

* Visiting researchers should complete and sign the Acknowledgement of Risk and Release form found on the IACUC website and return it to the Office of Animal Resources facilities at oar@fas.harvard.edu. PLEASE NOTE that a Parent/Guardian signature is required for individuals under the age of 18.