

# Occupational Health Clearance Form for Visitors Visiting MSU's NHP Containment Facility

The purpose of the occupational health clearance is to evaluate and address potential health risks associated with your visit to our research facility. In this environment, you may interface with Non-Human Primates (NHP), which are susceptible to many human infections and humans are susceptible to infections caused by organisms inherent in NHPs. Personal health status may impact an individual's susceptibility to infection, ability to receive immunizations or prophylactic intervention, or the ability to use the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) worn in the facility.

## A. Information on Animal Allergies

Those working in the vivarium and animal housing area, have the greatest potential health risk of acquiring a lab animal allergy. This is due to the fact that all individuals who work with animals, around or in rooms where animals are present are at an increased risk of developing lab animal allergies. Personnel at greatest risk are those with a history of allergies. It usually takes three to ten years of working with an animal to acquire an allergy. Symptoms include itchy watery eyes, runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, coughing, shortness of breath and/or chest tightness. Skin symptoms include a red rash and/or hives.

Acquiring an allergy to a NHP is very rare compared to other lab animals such as rodents. However, if you have any concerns prior to your visit, please contact your health care providers or MSU's Occupational Health Manager at 406-994-7394.

## B. Animal Facility

Please check all that apply and sign on the back page to acknowledge the following:

- I understand that one time visitors to the NHP containment area are not allowed to handle the NHPs and are not required to fully participate in MSU's Medical Screening Program but are to receive information on animal allergies and will voluntarily wear all of the PPE. I agree to comply with the following instructions regarding PPE and personal conduct. I understand that I will receive training in use of the PPE during my facility briefing.
- I understand that visitors with increased risk of acquiring infection or for whom infection may have unusually serious consequences should discuss this with their healthcare provider prior to their visit.
- I understand that NHPs are susceptible to many human infections. I do not have a contagious illness, active infection, or have had a recent exposure to an illness (i.e., flu, respiratory illness, mumps, measles, rubella, etc.).
- I plan to enter rooms where NHPs are present and documentation is attached to show that I participate in the following health screenings:
  - Tuberculosis clearance within the past twelve months.
  - Immunized against measles (rubeola). Standard practice is two valid measles vaccinations or proof of measles (rubeola) immunity.
- To ensure personal safety, the following requirements are to be followed while in an animal

area:

- No open-toed shoes.
- Long pants are mandatory.
- Avoid wearing high-heeled shoes; comfortable shoes are advised for standing on lab floors.
- Remove large pieces of jewelry; animals may be attracted to such items and reach for them.
- Visitors are not allowed to touch animals unless approved by the Attending Veterinarian.
- For your own safety, be aware of the animal whenever you are close to, or in contact with its cage.
- Avoid making direct eye contact with an animal and do not make any sudden movements near an animal. Animals may perceive such actions as aggression and react defensively.
- Limit conversations in animal holding rooms.
  - Direct all questions to your host regarding activities of personnel who may be working in the room.
  - Speak quietly while in an animal room; loud voices may agitate the animals.

I understand there may be additional requirements dependent on the nature of research being conducted at the time of visit.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**MSU Host: Please complete this box before returning form to ARC Office**

Date of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_

MSU host: \_\_\_\_\_ Year host trained by ARC Staff: \_\_\_\_\_

MSU Attending Veterinarian or ARC Facility Manager authorizing tour: \_\_\_\_\_