



- Newsletter from the Animal Facility at Biomedicine -

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1) Use of face mask in the Animal Facility

Using a face mask will no longer be mandatory when entering the Animal Facility.

However, to ensure personal protective measures and animal health status, face mask is mandatory to use when handling animals outside a LAF changing station.

This means that face mask must be used when opening a cage and handling and working with animals in behavior and procedure rooms.

It is not necessary to wear a face mask while working in a LAF changing station, or while being in the halls, changing room, the office floor etc.

Preventive hygienic measures are still very important for all work in the Animal Facility. Thus, it is very important that all users remember always to tidy up and ensure thorough cleaning and disinfection of working areas, surfaces and equipment.

2) Review of applications for experimental licenses

Remember that it is possible to receive assistance from the veterinary team in reviewing applications for animal experiments before submission to the Animal Experiments Inspectorate. The veterinarians can help with all aspects of the application, for example:

- Experimental setup
- Anesthesia and analgesia protocols
- Humane and/or experimental endpoints
- Incorporation of the 3Rs
- Submission process

It is also possible to get advice and guidance on specific scientific questions or topics before submission. If you would like assistance from the veterinary staff in reviewing your application, please do not hesitate to contact the vets.

If you want assistance with your application before submission, please send it to the veterinarians in due time. You should expect a response time of 1-2 weeks depending on other assignments and general work load in the Animal Facility.

Meeting dates of the Council of Animal Experiments for spring and summer:

- April 28th
- May 19th
- June 23rd





- August 25th

Meeting dates for fall and winter will follow in a later newsletter and can also be found on the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration's web page.

3) New mailbox for project plans

From **May 1st 2022**, all project plans for approval must be sent to projectplan@biomed.au.dk which the facility veterinarians have access to. They will check the mailbox regularly and together with researchers and animal caretakers work to approve the project plan.

The approved project plan must still be used in connection with ordering animals. Hence, the project plan must be sent for approval at least three weeks before study start in order to make sure it will be approved and the animals can be ordered in due time.

Example: If you wish to start a study by June 1st, the filled project plan must be sent to projectplan@biomed.au.dk no later than May 11th.

Please note that this also applies for animals bred in-house in the barrier. They will not be sent out from the barrier for experiments until there is an approved project plan available.

4) Use and reuse of blue coveralls/suits in the Animal Facility

Due to an increased amount of researchers, we are experiencing difficulties in supplying enough of the blue coveralls/suits that are mandatory to wear in the Animal Facility. Therefore, please reuse your blue coveralls if you have not been in direct contact with or handled animals and the suit is not dirty. For reusing coveralls, please store it in your black box or put it back on the shelf.

5) Filling the mobile anesthesia units

As we experience leak-issues with the filler keys when filling the anesthesia units, please make sure to fill it under one of the mobile/retractable fume extractors located in the procedure rooms. This will minimize the exposure to isoflurane vapors.



6) Labels for reagents and substances in refrigerators/freezers

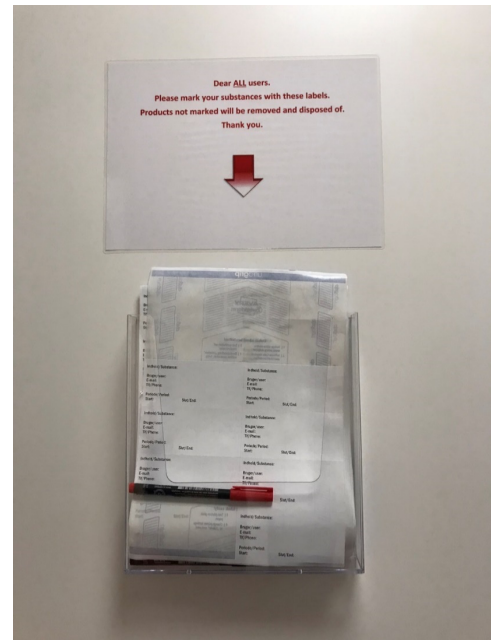
Labels for marking of reagents, medicines and other substances are available in the freezer room in the Animal Facility on the cabinet directly opposite the door (see image below).

As of **May 1st 2022** it will be mandatory to mark everything with a label containing information about the following:

- Content/substance and concentration
- User and contact information
- Start and end time

If your reagent is contained in a tube unfit to mark with a label, please place the tube in a zip lock bag and place the label on the bag. Zip lock bags are also available in the freezer room.

Reagents that are currently in the refrigerators or freezers **will be discarded after May 1st 2022** if they are not clearly labelled.



7) Murine cell lines or derivatives must be screened before use

Murine cell lines and derivatives can be a source of contamination for the animals housed in the Animal Facility and therefore any such cell lines must be screened for relevant infectious agents and contaminants before entry.

The Animal Facility can help arrange shipment to and screening through IDEXX Laboratories. Please be aware that the expenses for screening will be charged to the user. If you need help assessing whether a cell line can be brought in or want to know more, please contact the veterinary staff in the Animal Facility.





8) Limitations in ordering animals and technical assistance during summer vacation period

Due to the summer holiday and reduced number of technical staff available, please be aware that there are limitations in ordering of animals and technical assistance during this period.

It will not be possible to order animals to arrive in week 28, 29, 30 and 31.

If you need animals during this period, they should arrive earlier. For special request, please contact the management team. Orders must be sent to animalorders@biomed.au.dk.

Also, please be aware that technical assistance may be limited during the summer period from week 27 to 33.

9) Animal Facility Management contact information

Head of the Animal Facility: Jakob Harslund, e-mail: jakob@biomed.au.dk

Team leader: Lone Dahl Thomsen, e-mail: lone.d.thomsen@biomed.au.dk

Team leader and LAS specialist: Peter Aakær Nielsen, e-mail: pan@biomed.au.dk

Facility Veterinarian: Astrid Gerd Holtet, e-mail: agh@biomed.au.dk

Facility Veterinarian: Linda Loisa Kruhøffer, e-mail: lkr@biomed.au.dk

Facility Veterinarian: Thea Thougard Johansen, e-mail: tjo@biomed.au.dk

Homepage for the Animal Facility at Department of Biomedicine:

<http://dyrefaciliteter.au.dk/institut-for-biomedicin/>

<http://dyrefaciliteter.au.dk/en/department-of-biomedicine/>

Best regards,

Jakob Harslund

This newsletter is sent to keep the users of the Animal Facility at the Department informed about organizational conditions and management of daily routines and guidelines.

The newsletter is distributed to all employees at Department of Biomedicine at University of Aarhus.

