



# TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER EL PASO

## Operating Policy and Procedure

### TTUHSC El Paso Health Surveillance Program

#### *Laboratory Animal Resource Centers*

#### I. GUIDELINES

Health surveillance guidelines are designed to protect both people and laboratory animals, and are based on the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (NRC 1996); Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 5th Edition (2008), and other relevant published information.

#### II. COVERED INDIVIDUALS

Covered individuals include those who work in the Laboratory Animal Resource Centers (LARCs) on any campus or who have contact with laboratory animals or animal tissues, fluids, or waste, or animal living quarters on a regular basis. (See Employee Health Program for Personnel with Laboratory Animal Contact: LARC Policy No. POLARCOO4 available at the LARC office.)

#### III. COST RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COVERED INDIVIDUALS

**Screenings and Immunizations:** Costs for screenings and immunizations will be borne by the LARC Department.

**Exposure Investigations and Management:** Costs for exposure management will be borne by the LARC Department.

**Annual FLU Vaccines:** Cost will be covered by the Occupational Health Department (OH).

#### IV. INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH RESOURCE RESPONSIBILITY

##### A. History and Evaluation

All covered individuals must read the Employee Health Program for Personnel with Laboratory Animal Contact Handbook. "A Risk Assessment For Animal Contact: Health Questionnaire" shall be completed by level 1-participants as stipulated on the "Request for Laboratory Animal Resources Center Access Form" (FMLARC012) and submitted for review to the Health Surveillance Unit responsible for LARC. A medical evaluation/consultation may be required.

##### B. Required or Recommended Screenings and Immunizations

Required or recommended screenings and immunizations are specified in LARC policy POLARC004, which is available through the LARC office. LARC may be contacted at 915-215-4414.