University of CINCINNATI

LAMS Biocontainment and Housing

Last review date: March 2025

What is Animal Biological Containment (Biocontainment)?

It is a set of engineering controls and practices that aim to reduce the spread of infectious agents. The objective of biocontainment is to confine an infectious organism and to reduce the potential for exposure to laboratory staff and the likelihood of accidental release to the environment.

For how long animals should stay within the LAMS Biocontainment area?

- **Entire Study:** Due to the potential of permanent shedding, animals receiving Risk Group 2 **infectious agents** (e.g. bacteria, viruses, fungi, protozoa) should remain within the biocontainment area for the entire study period.

- **During Injection/Necropsy:** To agree with the BSL2 requirement for *in vitro* experiments, handling of **human-derived materials** (e.g. cells, tumor) during injection and necropsy needs to occur within ABSL2 containment. After the procedure, animals can be transferred to LAMS regular housing area.

- **72 Hours:** When animals are injected with **viral vectors**, shedding may occur for a short period and bedding should be considered hazardous for 72 hours after the last injection. This containment also applies to animals receiving **transduced cells** which *in vitro* transduction occurred less than 72 hours of animal inoculation. Once the hazard-waiting period is met, animals can be transferred to LAMS regular housing.