



**Duke University & Duke University Medical Center
Animal Care & Use Program
Policy**



MINIMUM PROTECTIVE CLOTHING FOR ANIMAL CARE / USE AREAS

PERFORMANCE STANDARD: All persons in animal care or use areas will be properly attired to discourage occupationally acquired diseases. This practice is also consistent with good infection control practices, which supports the institution's commitment to the highest level of animal welfare.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE: Protection of the health of all humans who work in animal care or use areas is critically important. A minimum standard for clothing has been established which is intended to discourage contamination of 'non-work' clothing. This is not a new requirement, it is an enhancement of the existing policy consistent with occupational health and safety standards for work with laboratory animals

ROLES:

1. All research staff must assure that the minimum clothing requirements are maintained for all members of the research party entering into animal care or use areas.
2. All support staff (IACUC, DLAR, OAWA, etc.) will also adhere to the minimum clothing requirements for entering into or working within the animal care or use areas.
3. DLAR will develop additional policies for appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) delineated by species and animal health status as necessary or required for the protection of the animals and / or the personnel.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES REQUIRED: Personnel protective equipment is required; appropriate to the species and the hazard being used.

POLICY OUTLINE:

1. A lab coat, gown, scrubs or specified work uniform must be worn when entering animal occupied areas.
2. Gloves are recommended at all times when working with animals.