Potential Exposure to Human Pathogen Communication & Reporting Procedures

As part of their laboratory-specific training, all employees under an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)-approved project who work with, or come in contact with, a human pathogen must be aware of the symptoms of disease caused by those pathogens. These symptoms are described in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for the pathogen. If the employee believes they are suffering from an exposure to the pathogen, they must inform their supervisor immediately. The supervisor must complete the First Report of Injury (FROI) form within 24 hrs and immediately notify Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S), Office of Research Ethics (ORE), or Occupational Medicine (Occ Med). The principal investigator of any associated project must also promptly submit an Adverse Biosafety Event Report Form to the ORE. This form can be found on the [IBC Forms web page](#).

**Roles**

**EH&S, 294-5359 (Scenario 1)**
- If notified first, contact ORE and Occ Med
- Remind supervisor to complete [FROI form](#)
- Direct supervisor to the Adverse Biosafety Event Report Form

**ORE, 294-5412 or 294-9581 (Scenario 2)**
- If notified first, contact EH&S and Occ Med
- Direct supervisor to the Adverse Biosafety Event Report Form
- Send out completed Adverse Biosafety Event Report Form to the IBC
- Notify NIH Office of Science Policy (OSP) (if recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules are involved).

**Occ Med, 294-2056 (Scenario 3)**
- If notified first, contact EH&S
- EH&S will contact ORE
- Notify the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) if the disease is reportable

**IBC Chair/Member (Scenario 4)**
- If notified first, contact ORE
- ORE will contact EH&S

**Constant lines of communication are as follows (please see communication trees):**
- ORE to IBC and NIH OSP (if recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules are involved)
- EH&S to Occ Med
- Occ Med to IDPH
Scenario 1: EH&S receives initial notice
Potential Exposure to Human Pathogen

- Employee or Person Exposed
- Supervisor (Complete First Report of Injury)
- EH&S
- ORE
- IBC
- NIH OSP (if recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules are involved)
- Occupational Medicine
- IDPH
Scenario 2: ORE receives initial notice
Potential Exposure to Human Pathogen

- Employee or Person Exposed
- Supervisor
- Complete First Report of Injury
  - And/Or
  - ORE
  - EH&S
  - IBC
  - NIH OSP (if recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules are involved)
  - Occupational Medicine
  - IDPH
Scenario 3: Occ Med receives initial notice
Potential Exposure to Human Pathogen

Employee or Person Exposed → Supervisor → Complete First Report of Injury

And/Or

Occupational Medicine → EH&S

IDPH → ORE → IBC → NIH OSP (if recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules are involved)
Scenario 4: IBC Chair/Member receives initial notice
Potential Exposure to Human Pathogen

Employee or Person Exposed → Supervisor → Complete First Report of Injury

IBC Chair/Member

Employee or Person Exposed → Supervisor

Complete First Report of Injury → ORE → EH&S

ORE

Complete First Report of Injury → IBC

EH&S

Employee or Person Exposed → ORE

Complete First Report of Injury → Occupational Medicine

IEC

Employee or Person Exposed → EH&S

Complete First Report of Injury → NIH OSP (if recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid)

Occupational Medicine

Complete First Report of Injury → IDPH