

## JHU Instructional Laboratory COVID-19

### Disinfection Guidance

In order to prevent the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in instructional laboratories, the following procedures must be performed by each lab group each day. Failure to comply will place your lab at risk for spreading the virus which could result in harm to your health, the health of your household, or our community. Health Safety & Environment has the authority to shut down labs that are consistently noncompliant with these health and safety precautions.

Instructional laboratories have a higher turnover of students. General cleaning and disinfection will be coordinated between custodial services, lab instructors and HSE for specific cleaning needs. Instructional lab cleaning will be performed using a 'community approach' with all occupants participating.

- **Flooring & trash removal** – custodial service will dust mop and spot mop and remove trash (via bio-boxes placed on hallways by lab staff) as needed (x2 a day).
- **High tactile contact lab equipment** – chemical, biological, radioactive containers, handheld equipment, equipment knobs and handles, scales, centrifuges, pipettors, glassware, etc., will be cleaned by lab staff (instructor/TAs) after each class/section.
- **Student Workstation Counter Surfaces** – Students, TAs and instructors should clean workstation counter surfaces and high tactile lab equipment after each class. Custodial service will clean all casework handles, cleared benchtops, sink & handle, stool/seats, exterior fume hood sash rail, doorknobs, etc. 2x per day.
- As instructional lab settings vary, teaching lab instructors will coordinate with HSE to develop and tailor additional lab cleaning protocols as needed for specific lab needs.
- As other cleaning needs arise within the lab, instructors will consult with HSE and custodial service for support.

### BEFORE Coming to Campus

1. **Check for COVID-19 symptoms.** Fever; Sore throat, New cough; New shortness of breath, Unexplained loss of taste or smell see full list of symptoms at: <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/coronavirus/covid-19-self-checker.html>  
If you are experiencing symptoms or have had contact with someone who is COVID-19 positive in the past 14 days, call the appropriate call center for guidance. Stay at home if you are sick. If you are sick but not due to COVID-19 notify your supervisor.
2. **Students must call the University Health Services at 410-955-3250 (East Baltimore Campus) or Student Health & Wellness (Homewood) at 410-516-8270. Employees must call the Employee COVID-19 Call Center at 833-546-7546 if you are experiencing symptoms or if you have had contact with someone who has been diagnosed as COVID-19 positive in the past 14 days.**
3. **Wear freshly laundered, lab appropriate clothing and an appropriate face mask.**
4. **Leave non-essential personal items, i.e., purses, backpacks, at home.**

### Laboratory Disinfection Protocol

1. **Wash hands** with mild soap and warm water for 20 seconds. **Dry hands.**
2. **Don additional PPE required for disinfection: lab coat or apron, nitrile gloves, and safety goggles.**
3. **Assemble disinfectant and wiping materials. Supplies can be obtained through your usual supply chain methods or custodial services.**
4. **Disinfect laboratory surfaces using EPA approved disinfectants for human coronavirus or 1:10 bleach solution.** For consistency, reproducibility, and chemical compatibility, multiple disinfectant use should be avoided. Information on appropriate disinfectants can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>
  - a. Disinfect all frequently touched surfaces and objects.
  - b. \*\*\*If there is visible chemical/other residue on a surface, first remove residue with a separate cloth wetted with water and allow surface to dry before attempting to disinfect\*\*\*
  - c. Spray/apply disinfectant directly to new cloth- minimizing aerosol generation of disinfectant; wipe working and high contact surfaces with cloth- benchtop, fume hood bench and sash, cabinet handles, refrigerator handles, door

handles, sink handles, computer keyboard and mouse, etc. On certain electronic devices, several lighter applications with dampened disinfecting cloth may be necessary to reduce damage to the device.

- d. \*\*\*Apply enough disinfectant to thoroughly wet surfaces and allow disinfectant to air dry, ensuring that the manufacturers recommended contact time is met\*\*\*
- e. Disinfecting cloth may be reused until grossly soiled. Dispose of grossly soiled cloths in bio box.
- f. When you complete the cleaning/disinfecting process, [remove nitrile gloves](#) and dispose into biohazard waste box; wash hands.
- g. \*\*\*Ensure everyone in the lab is using the same disinfectant! Do not switch between different disinfectants and/or bleach\*\*\*
- h. You may wish to exit the room while the disinfectant vapors dissipate.

### **While Performing Laboratory Activities**

1. **Maintain social distancing** of 6 feet.
2. **Continue to wear** mask (Note: Cloth and procedure/surgical masks are worn based on State public health requirements for masking, not to protect against hazards in the lab. Specific tasks which present a respiratory hazard need to be performed using typical engineering controls - chemical fume hoods and biosafety cabinets.)
3. **Wash hands** anytime you leave the lab, after you touch shared items, before AND after using the restroom.
4. **Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.**
5. **Monitor your symptoms throughout the day.** Immediately leave laboratory and alert your PI if you develop symptoms at work. Contact your COVID Call Center for guidance.

### **BEFORE Leaving the Laboratory**

1. **Repeat disinfection of laboratory surfaces using an approved disinfectant.**
2. **Disinfect any personal item you handled in the lab such as mobile phones and computers.**
3. **Doff lab coat/apron and store.** The lab coat/apron should be considered soiled once it is worn. This does not preclude it from being worn for several days before it is laundered. Launder or exchange soiled lab coat/apron weekly per established laboratory procedures.
4. **Remove gloves** and dispose in lab bio box.
5. **Wash hands** with mild soap and warm water for 20 seconds. **Dry hands.**

### **When you get home**

It is unlikely that you will bring any contaminants home with you from working lab. However, out of an abundance of caution, do the following:

1. **Remove shoes** upon entering your home/apartment.
2. **Place clothes in dirty laundry. Launder before next use.**
3. **Wash hands** with mild soap and warm water for 20 seconds.
4. **Shower**

**Contact JHU Department of Health, Safety & Environment with questions:**

**Homewood 410-516-8798**

**JHMI 410-955-5918**

**[HSEinfo@jhmi.edu](mailto:HSEinfo@jhmi.edu)**