UAB Environmental Health and Safety

Safety Shorts

Laboratory Safety Updates & Resources

🏆 2nd Quarter Laboratory Safety Award Winners



Celebrating Excellence in Laboratory Safety

UAB Environmental Health & Safety is pleased to recognize our 2nd Quarter Laboratory Safety Award Winners for their outstanding commitment to maintaining safe research environments and fostering a strong culture of safety.

Congratulations to:

🏆 **Matthew Alexander, Ph.D.**
Department of Pediatrics – Neurobiology

🏆 **Aftab Ahmad, Ph.D. and Shama Ahmad, Ph.D.**
Department of Anesthesiology

🏆 **Fengbin Wang (Jerry), Ph.D.**
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics

🏆 **Kristopher Genschmer, Ph.D.**
Department of Medicine – Pulmonary/Allergy/Critical Care

🏆 **James Ferguson (Jed), M.D., Ph.D.**
Department of Urology

These laboratories demonstrated exceptional performance in safety compliance, hazard recognition, housekeeping, training, and overall commitment to protecting researchers and staff. Thank you for helping make UAB a safer place to learn, work, and conduct research.



To learn more about the EH&S Lab Safety Award click here!

🎁 Laboratory Moving & Closing Procedures

Start Planning Early



Moving or closing a laboratory involves more than relocating equipment. Proper planning is necessary to safely manage chemicals, biological materials, radioactive materials, and hazardous waste while maintaining regulatory compliance.

Before beginning a move or closure, remember to:
✔ Contact EH&S as early as possible
✔ Review and update chemical inventories
✔ Arrange disposal of hazardous materials and waste
✔ Decontaminate equipment and workspaces
✔ Schedule any required inspections and clearances

Early coordination can help avoid delays and ensure a smooth transition.

Learn More: Laboratory Moving and Closing Procedures

🪶 Compressed Gas Cylinder Safety Guidance

New Resource Available

Compressed gas cylinders can present significant hazards when not handled, stored, or transported properly.

To help laboratories maintain safe practices, EH&S has developed a Compressed Gas Cylinder Guidance Document, which is attached to this newsletter.



The guidance includes information on:

- Proper cylinder storage and restraint
- Transportation requirements
- Labeling expectations
- Separation of incompatible gases
- General handling and use practices

📎 Please review the attached Compressed Gas Cylinder Guidance and share it with laboratory personnel who work with compressed gases.

🔬 Laboratory Safety Workshop

Enhance Your Laboratory Safety Knowledge



Join EH&S for an upcoming Laboratory Safety Workshop designed for faculty, staff, researchers, laboratory managers, and students.

Topics may include:

- Hazard identification and risk assessment
- Chemical safety best practices
- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Laboratory inspections and compliance

Date: Thursday, October 22, 2026
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: Check in at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in CH19 (Press B in the elevator)
Registration:

1. Go to the Laboratory Safety Workshop Course in the Campus LMS
2. "Login with BlazerID" button
3. Click the green "ENROLL" button

Whether you are new to the laboratory or an experienced researcher, this workshop offers valuable guidance and practical safety information.

📣 Safety Reminder

Report Hazards Promptly

Prompt reporting of unsafe conditions helps prevent injuries and protects the UAB research community. If you identify a safety concern, notify your supervisor and contact EH&S as appropriate.

Thank you for your commitment to maintaining a safe, healthy, and compliant research environment at UAB.

UAB Environmental Health & Safety
Supporting Research. Promoting Compliance. Protecting People.

About Safety Shorts
Safety Shorts is a publication of UAB Environmental Health and Safety.
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