



Potential Animal Usage Area

KNOW YOUR RISK:

Laboratory animal allergens may be generated in this area. Laboratory animal allergies can pose a serious health concern for those who work with or near animals. Lab animal allergens can be found in dander, hair, saliva, urine, and serum of laboratory animals. Exposure to a lab animal allergen may result in an allergic response. An allergic response may involve symptoms such as allergic rhinitis or conjunctivitis (a runny nose, itchy eyes, tearing, sneezing & congestion) or contact allergic dermatitis (red, bumpy, itchy rash or hives & welts). Severe allergic responses may include asthma or anaphylaxis.

REDUCE YOUR RISK:

Recognize and employ engineering controls such as ventilation equipment (e.g., biosafety cabinets, fume hoods) and personal protective equipment (e.g., gloves, gown, approved particulate respirators) when working with animals.

Employ smart work practice controls such as hand washing.

Monitor your health and symptoms. Even if you do not experience symptoms when you first start working around animals, they can develop over time. Repeated exposure to allergens may result in sensitization.

For questions contact the research occupational health nurse at occhealth@uga.edu.

