

Name: Animal-Related Injury **Created:** 8/14/17
Number: FSU-SOP-410.01 **Revised:** --
Category: Occupational Health & Safety **Author(s):** T. Schoenfeld

1.0 Purpose

This SOP describes the process for treating and documenting minor injuries arising from contact with animals as a caretaker or researcher working in the vivarium.

2.0 Policy

- 2.1 Minor injuries may arise in the course of handling animals in the vivarium.
 - 2.1.1 These include bites, scratches, or other breaks in the skin arising while handling animals.
 - 2.1.2 These may also arise from exposure, through direct or indirect contact, to animal tissues, fluids, secretions, or wastes, leading to irritation and inflammation.
- 2.2 When they occur, one should:
 - 2.2.1 Stop working with the animal or related material;
 - 2.2.2 Stabilize the situation (e.g., re-cage the animal);
 - 2.2.3 Seek and apply first aid;
 - 2.2.4 If necessary, seek additional assistance from Campus Police or further medical treatment (Health Services or Health Alliance);
 - 2.2.5 Contact your PI for further assistance and to report the incident;
 - 2.2.6 File a formal incident injury report with the Department of Biology and Chemistry and the EH&S office.
 - 2.2.7 If faculty, also file a Notice of Injury report with Human Resources.

3.0 Materials

- 3.1 First-aid kit (at main entrance)
- 3.2 Eye wash (at main entrance)
- 3.3 Emergency contact numbers (at main entrance and by phone in Procedure Room, 101D)
- 3.4 Incident report forms in Chemical Safety binder near vivarium entrance.

4.0 Procedure

- 4.1 When the injury occurs:
 - 4.1.1 Immediately stop handling the animal or related material (tissues, fluids, wastes).
 - 4.1.2 Stabilize the situation as quickly as you can so that you can attend to your injury.
 - 4.1.2.1 Re-cage the animal or re-cover the material being worked on;
 - 4.1.2.2 Turn off any devices that should not be left unattended;
 - 4.1.2.3 But leave all else as is.

- 4.1.3 Remove and discard any PPE, then leave the room and attend to your injury:
 - 4.1.3.1 If possible, first wash your hands in the sink at the entrance;
 - 4.1.3.2 Then seek treatment from the first aid kit on the adjacent wall (gauze, bandages, antibiotic ointment, etc.);
 - 4.1.3.3 If the injury involves fluid or other material propelled into your eye, then find the eyewash adjacent to the sink and activate it to thoroughly rinse out your eye with water.
- 4.1.4 Contact Campus Police for emergency assistance if the injury is more extensive than mere first aid can properly treat and stabilize.
- 4.2 Once the injury is stabilized:
 - 4.2.1 Contact the PI supervising your project for further assistance and to verbally report the incident.
 - 4.2.2 Consider going to either Health Services (student) or Health Alliance (faculty) to receive further medical attention to the injury.
 - 4.2.3 Once possible, return to the work site and complete or clean up what you were doing when you were injured.
 - 4.2.3.1 If necessary, seek the assistance of the PI in this effort, should the nature of the injury make these efforts difficult.
 - 4.2.4 Place an entry in the disposition log about the incident.
 - 4.2.5 File a formal incident injury report with the Department of Biology and Chemistry and the EH&S officer, using forms in the Chemical Safety binder near the vivarium entrance.
 - 4.2.6 If faculty, also file a Notice of Injury report with Human Resources.

5.0 References

- 5.1 Animal-Related Injury (McGill University)
http://www.mcgill.ca/research/files/research/702_-_animal_related_injury_-_march_2016.pdf

SOP REVISION HISTORY

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410.01	12/20/17	Authored by T. Schoenfeld