Appendix B – Posting Biohazard Signs and Labels

Contents

A. PURPOSE B-1
B. RESPONSIBILITY B-1
C. BIOHAZARD WARNING SIGN USE B-1
D. BIOHAZARD WARNING LABELS USE B-2

A. PURPOSE

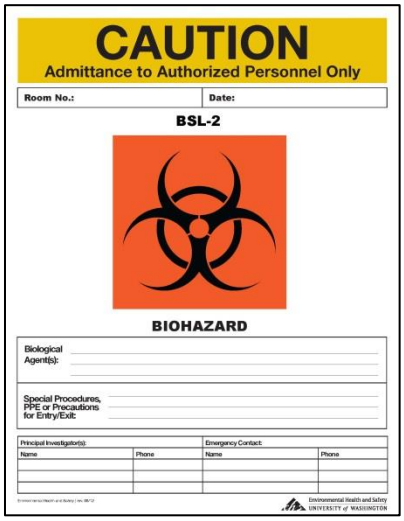
Biohazard warning signs are used to restrict access in areas when biohazardous procedures are in progress and to alert support personnel as well as emergency personnel who may enter the area to take precautionary measures.

B. RESPONSIBILITY

It is primarily the responsibility of the PI to identify and restrict access to the laboratory and to notify emergency and support personnel of any hazards in the laboratory.

C. BIOHAZARD WARNING SIGN USE

1) A standardized Biohazard Warning Sign must be used to restrict laboratory access.



2) This sign must be permanently affixed to all entry doors of the following laboratories/rooms:

- BSL-2 with BSL-3 practices
- BSL-3
- ABSL-2
- ABSL-2 with ABSL-3 practices
- ABSL-3

3) For BSL-2 laboratories, the Biohazard Warning Sign must be affixed to entry doors in a way such that it can be easily removed (e.g., place sign in plastic cover). After work is complete, agents are secured (e.g., inside closed incubator or refrigerator), and surfaces are decontaminated, the biohazard warning sign may be removed or turned over. If the biohazard warning sign is affixed to a BSL-2 laboratory door, support staff, such as Facilities Services or Custodial Services, will not enter.

4) Refer to the EH&S Posting Biohazard Warning Signs and Labels page for additional information and instructions.

D. BIOHAZARD WARNING LABELS USE

Any storage or transportation container, as well as any waste container that contains untreated biohazardous waste, must be identified with a biohazard warning label. See the EH&S Posting Biohazard Warning Signs and Labels page for additional information about use of these labels and Appendix C for transportation information.

Examples of biohazard warning labels and order information are available from EH&S ROS at 206-221-7770.