Shared Equipment Spaces Covid Guidelines

If anyone who uses shared equipment is confirmed COVID positive, please let the Lab Services Manager know immediately so equipment can be decontaminated and others who may have been exposed can be informed.

Per University requirements, appropriate face coverings are required to be worn at all times unless exempt under medical reasons. Even if a room is a single occupant room, the covering must stay on as these are shared spaces.

If you see someone in a shared space/common area not wearing a mask, ask them to put their mask on. If they do not comply, email David Perkel, Billie Swalla, and Michele Conrad immediately. See Common Spaces Guidelines for exceptions.

Working safely with disinfectants

LSB Autoclave Rooms B143 (select labs only) & 330

- Only 1 person is allowed in Room 330 at a time.
- 2 people can be in B143 but must adhere to the 6-foot social distancing rule.
- Required: use the new online scheduler to help prevent accidental run ins.
  - The autoclaves are available in 30-minute blocks, make sure to block out a time long enough to cover your entire run. For example, if running a 20-minute wet cycle, you’ll need at least 45 minutes to complete the run, so choose two 30-minute blocks.
  - If can’t use the equipment during the time you reserved, please cancel it online so someone else can take the time.
- Look inside the rooms prior to entering to confirm space is available.
- Upon entering the room and prior to touching anything, you’re required to put on a new pair of lab grade gloves (not provided) or put on plastic gloves (provided) over lab gloves. When exiting the room, discard gloves. Plastic gloves are provided for the use of this departmentally-owned equipment and are not to be moved to another location.
- Other standard autoclave use rules still apply.
- Do not spray any kind of disinfectant on the equipment directly as it can damage the equipment. Spray disinfectant on a paper towel and then wipe over equipment but do not saturate the paper towel to the point where it will leave residue on equipment.

LSB Shared Resources & Equipment

- Required: use the new online scheduler to help prevent accidental run ins.
• Lab equipment (excluding hoods and water purification systems) will have time blocks available of different lengths that you can reserve the equipment for. Sign up for the time you need but do not go longer than needed so others can use the equipment.
  o If can’t use the equipment during the time you reserved, please cancel it online so someone else can take the time.
• Prior to using any equipment, you’re required to put on a new pair of lab grade gloves (not provided) or put on plastic gloves (provided) over lab gloves. Discard gloves immediately after use. Plastic gloves are provided for the use of this departmentally-owned equipment and are not to be moved to another location.
  o Plastic gloves will be placed at the following equipment:
    ▪ Shaker Incubators, floors 3 & 5
    ▪ Beckman Centrifuges floor 3, Thermo Scientific Centrifuge floor 5
    ▪ BioRad ChemiDoc, 312J
    ▪ Azure c600 Imaging System, 509
    ▪ NanoDrop, floors 3 & 5
• Some equipment can have multiple users, such as shaker incubators and ovens. If you’re overlapping with someone and they are already there, please wait until they are done loading/unloading the equipment before loading/unloading yours.
• Do not spray any kind of disinfectant on the equipment directly as it can damage the equipment. Spray disinfectant on a paper towel and then wipe over equipment but do not saturate the paper towel to the point where it will leave residue on equipment.

Growth Chambers
• All users must be able to adhere to a 6-foot distance separation while in rooms that house growth chambers. The following limits are imposed on chamber rooms.
  o G1000 seed germination rooms, B226, B230, B232: 1 person in room
  o PGC-FLEX Reach-In Chamber rooms, B218, B220, B234, B236: 2 people in room
  o PGW40 Walk-In Chamber Room B221: 6 people in room
• There are now reversible paper signs inside a sticky sheet holder on the door of each chamber room, indicating whether a room is vacant (or partially vacant) or fully occupied. Please be sure to turn the sign to the appropriate side as you enter or exit a room.
• Upon entering the room and prior to using any equipment, you’re required to put on a new pair of lab grade gloves (not provided). Discard gloves immediately after use. If you need to change gloves for work purposes, please continue to do so.
• After entering or leaving a room, it is highly recommended that users wash or sterilize their hands due to high frequency of contact with door handles.
• Do not spray any kind of disinfectant on the equipment directly as it can damage the equipment. Spray disinfectant on a paper towel and then wipe over equipment but do not saturate the paper towel to the point where it will leave residue on equipment.
HCK / JHN Autoclaves
• 1-person limit. The HCK and JHN autoclaves are low-use and not on the online scheduler.
• Look inside the rooms prior to entering to confirm space is available.
• Upon entering the room and prior to touching anything, you’re required to put on a new pair of lab grade gloves (not provided) or put on plastic gloves (provided) over lab gloves. When exiting the room, discard gloves. Plastic gloves are provided for the use of this departmentally-owned equipment and are not to be moved to another location.
• Other standard autoclave use rules still apply.
• Do not spray any kind of disinfectant on the equipment directly as it can damage the equipment. Spray disinfectant on a paper towel and then wipe over equipment but do not saturate the paper towel to the point where it will leave residue on equipment.

HCK Chambers
• There is only one user of the HCK Chambers. All others should stay out of this area.