

ANIMAL FACILITY STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

SOP 13: PERSONAL HYGIENE

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PERSONAL HYGIENE

It is essential that the animal care staff maintain a high standard of personal cleanliness. Facilities and supplies for meeting this obligation should be provided with appropriate Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) e.g. showers, change of uniforms, footwear etc. Clothing suitable for use in the animal facility should be supplied and laundered by the institution.

A commercial laundering service is acceptable in many situations; however, institutional facilities should be used to decontaminate clothing exposed to potentially hazardous microbial agents or toxic substances.

It is acceptable to use disposable gloves, masks, head covers, coats, coveralls and shoe covers. Personnel should change clothing as often as is necessary to maintain personal hygiene. Outer garments worn in the animal rooms should not be worn outside the animal facility.

Washing and showering facilities appropriate to the program should be available. Personnel should not be permitted to eat, drink, smoke or apply cosmetics and perfumes in animal rooms. They should finish the work with animals as early as possible and sit somewhere else outside and not in the animal rooms / areas. A separate area or room should be made available for these purposes.