1. PURPOSE

- This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the requirements of personal protective equipment (PPE) for animal husbandry staff and research staff while working in the animal facilities. Veterinary, supervisory, and support staff should follow appropriate guidelines similar to husbandry or research staff.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

- LACU Animal husbandry staff, supervisors, veterinary staff, and UT researchers and staff.

3. STORAGE OF PPE

- PPE ordering:
  - PPE stock for each facility is the responsibility of the LACU supervisor of that facility. Adequate supplies of each type of PPE must be stored within the facility at all times.
- PPE Stocking:
  - LACU husbandry or support staff is to stock PPE cabinets/containers/etc. within the facility at the direction of their supervisor. Adequate supplies of each type of PPE must be available for use within the animal facilities at all times.

4. TYPES OF PPE

- Facility dedicated scrubs
  - These scrubs are provided to LACU personnel and are to be worn within the vivarium only. These scrubs are not to be worn outside of animal facilities during breaks or outside of work.
- Facility dedicated shoes
  - These shoes are provided to LACU personnel and are to be worn within the vivarium only. These shoes are not to be worn outside of animal facilities during breaks or outside of work.
- Exam Gloves
  - Disposable nitrile exam gloves in a variety of sizes
- Isolation gown
  - Yellow or white disposable gowns
- Sleeve cover
  - Plastic, water-resistant disposable sleeves
    - These should cover the entire forearm that would be exposed within the biosafety cabinet
- Face mask
  - Ear loop style blue disposable face mask
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Hair bonnet
  - Polypropylene disposable bouffant cap
- Other
  - N95 respirator – to be worn only in certain conditions. Fit testing must be performed prior to use.
  - Shoe covers – water resistant shoe covers to be worn in some conditions
  - Face Shield – water proof plastic face shield with the elastic head band; required for some circumstances (ie nonhuman primates)
  - Hearing protection – available as sound-cancelling ear phones or ear plugs; required for some circumstances (ie dogs, chickens)

5. PPE REQUIREMENTS

LACU Husbandry staff:

- While working in ABSL1 animal housing or procedure rooms within functioning cage change stations or biosafety cabinets (BSC) and animals are housed in microisolator caging, the following PPE is required:
  - Facility dedicated scrubs and shoes
  - Exam gloves
  - Isolation gown or sleeve covers
- While working in ABSL1 animal housing rooms that do not have functioning cage change stations or BSC, or when working outside of the cage change station or BSC, or when animals are not housed in microisolator caging, the following PPE is required:
  - Facility dedicated scrubs and shoes
  - When working with large animals, dedicated boots should be worn
  - Exam gloves, isolation gown, face mask, and hair bonnet
- While working in ABSL2 areas, staff should wear PPE that is posted on the door (in agent specific SOP from UTHSC Safety Affairs or LACU ABSL-2 and Chemical SOPs) as areas will differ based on biological or chemical hazard as well as caging and engineering controls available. PPE must be removed before exiting the ABSL2 area.

Research staff:

- While working in ABSL1 animal housing or procedure rooms within functioning cage change stations or biosafety cabinets (BSC) and animals are housed in microisolator caging, the following PPE is required:
  - Exam gloves and isolation gown
- While working in ABSL1 animal housing rooms that do not have functioning cage change stations or BSC, or when working outside of the cage change station or BSC, or when animals are not housed in microisolator caging, the following PPE is required:
  - Exam gloves, isolation gown, face mask, and hair bonnet
While working in ABSL2 areas, staff should wear PPE that is posted on the door (in agent specific SOP from UTHSC Safety Affairs or LACU ABSL-2 and Chemical SOPs) as areas will differ based on biological or chemical hazard as well as caging and engineering controls available. PPE must be removed before exiting the ABSL2 area.

6. OTHER

- Additional PPE may be required for areas during pathogen outbreak requiring quarantine, for special circumstances (ie hearing protection for dogs or chickens), or at the discretion of the attending veterinarian. All personnel working within the animal facilities are required to follow the minimum PPE outlined on signage within the facilities.
- Additional PPE is provided and can be worn by personnel at their discretion when working in housing and procedure rooms, given that the minimum requirements (outlined above) are also met.