

Potential Laboratory Hazards

As a shadowing student, you have not received the required training authorizing you to work with hazards in the laboratory. Access to certain areas (eg. radiation room, animal facility) is not permitted for shadowing students. In order to prevent lab-related injuries, please pay attention to your supervisor and wear appropriate personal protective equipment due to your proximity to hazards in the laboratory environment. Below is a list of common potential hazards found in the laboratory areas:

Chemicals	Compounds that could be in the form of solid, liquid or gas. Certain compounds may have a hazard classification such as flammable, highly reactive, toxin or carcinogen.
Biological Agents	Living organisms or products of living organisms such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, animals, and humans which may contain pathogens.
Transgenic Organisms	Organisms which possess genetically modified DNA.
Physical Hazards	Hazards from heat, cold, noise, machinery, lasers, etc.
Animals	Can bite, contain allergens, and transmit zoonotic diseases. Shadowing students are not granted access to the animal facilities.
Compressed Gasses	High pressure cylinders containing gases which may be harmless, corrosive, toxic or flammable.
Radioactive Materials	Unstable elements which emit high energy particles or waves. Shadowing students are not permitted into the radiation room.

Definitions

Carcinogen – substance capable or suspected of producing cancer.

Pathogen – product of living organism which is capable of causing disease.

Zoonotic Diseases – diseases that can be passed from animals to humans.