DURING A PANDEMIC

Lab Safety

COVID-19 has temporarily closed many labs, but the science must go on for others. Whether you’re keeping precious cultures alive or doing other essential work, stay vigilant about safety. Here’s how to protect yourself, your colleagues, and your work from the viral spread.

DON’T LET YOUR LAB SAFETY LAPSE

1. **STAGGER LAB HOURS**
   - Sign up for shifts to limit the number of people in the lab.
   - Do laptop work (like grant writing) from home.

2. **HAVE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS**
   - Practice social distancing and respect personal space.
   - Keep at least 6 feet apart from colleagues.1

3. **CLEAN AND DISINFECT**
   - Regularly clean high-touch surfaces like cabinet knobs, equipment, refrigerator handles, and light switches with EPA-approved disinfectants.3

4. **WEAR PPE WHILE CLEANING**
   - Use personal protective equipment (PPE) while cleaning.
   - Wipe down reusable PPE (like safety goggles) afterward.

5. **PRIORITIZE HAND HYGIENE**
   - Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after using gloves. Alternatively, utilize hand sanitizer stations and refill often.2

6. **STAY HOME WHEN SICK**
   - Anyone who feels sick should stay home, contact their doctor, and self-quarantine as necessary.4

7. **PRACTICE DISTANCING OUTSIDE THE LAB**
   - When you’re not in the lab, practice social distancing in office areas and at home to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19.

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Helping You Keep Work on Track

Cat resources for COVID-19 applications from Corning Life Sciences at corning.com/covid-19-research