Nonhuman Primate and Other Research Animal 
Bite, Scratch, Splash, and Exposure (BSSE) Guidelines

**Purpose:** These nonhuman primate (NHP) BSSE guidelines describe the programmatic requirements specific to ICs working with all NHPs and are intended to promote the safe use of NHPs in research. Certain Old World NHPs and their tissues may be infected with B virus (*Macacine alphaherpesvirus* 1), which can be fatal in humans. These guidelines contain BSSE incident response measures and follow up risk assessments required for all research animal bites, scratches, splashes, or other exposure incidents, but primarily address NHP BSSE incidents with a focus on decreasing B virus infections. These guidelines are also meant to supplement NIH Manual Chapter 3044-2: *Protection of NIH Personnel Who Work with Nonhuman Primates* and DDIR/IO Policy Memo *Updates to the Nonhuman Primate Users Safety Program*.

**Responsibility:** All investigators or persons involved with the care and use of research animals must be enrolled in an animal exposure program (AEP) and follow these procedures as written. All National Institutes of Health (NIH) personnel (including but not limited to federal employees, contractors, trainees, Public Health Service and visiting scientists) must report any work-related injuries or exposures to their supervisors and to Occupational Medical Service (OMS).

**Acronyms:**
- ACUC: Animal Care and Use Committee
- AEP: Animal Exposure Program
- APD: Animal Program Director
- ARAC: Animal Research Advisory Committee
- B Virus: *Macacine alphaherpesvirus* 1, *Cercopithecine herpesvirus* 1 (CHV-1), Herpes B Virus, *Macacine herpesvirus* 1
- BSSE: Bite, scratch, splash or other exposure
- DOHS: Division of Occupational Health and Safety
- IBC: Institutional Biosafety Committee
- IC: Institute/Center
- IRF: Intramural Research Facility
- NHP: Nonhuman primate
- NIH: National Institutes of Health
- OACU: Office of Animal Care and Use
- OMS: Occupational Medical Service
- PEP: Post-exposure prophylaxis
- PI: Principal Investigator
- SOP: Standard Operating Procedure

**Research Animal Categories:**
- Small Animals: fish, amphibians, rodents
- Large Animals: rabbits, cats, dogs, sheep, pigs
- NHPs (examples):
  - New World: marmosets, tamarins, squirrel monkeys, owl monkeys
  - Old World: rhesus, cynomolgus and pigtail/pig-tailed macaques, baboons, African Green monkeys
First Aid Procedures following a Research Animal Exposure:

A. First aid after BSSE to any Old World NHP:
   1.) Initiate immediate first aid (within the first 5 minutes of exposure):
      a. Contaminated skin and wounds should be washed thoroughly for 15 minutes with clean running water or normal saline solution, a sponge, and a cleansing agent such as povidone-iodine or chlorhexidine, provided on-site in the NHP bite/scratch (BSSE) kit.
      b. Contaminated eyes and mucous membranes should be irrigated at an eyewash station for 15 minutes using normal saline solution or clean running water.
   2.) After administration of first aid, immediately report the incident to the Main Campus OMS, or have someone report on your behalf while administering first aid, if possible. Ask to speak with the OMS provider-on-duty, and state: “I have had a nonhuman primate-related injury or incident.” Notify Main Campus regardless of geographic location.
      a. OMS will assess the injury or exposure by phone and provide further guidance.
      b. IF indicated, OMS will direct you to initiate immediate B virus post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), found within the BSSE kit.

→ Call 301-496-4411 (Main Campus Clinic), 7:30 am – 5:00 pm ET, Monday – Friday
→ After-hours, or if there is no answer at the OMS clinic during business hours, call 301-496-1211 (NIH Operator), 5:00 pm – 7:30 am ET, Monday – Friday, and on weekends & holidays

If the local OMS clinic is called, they will contact the Main Campus Clinic for approval of post-exposure prophylaxis administration.

B. First aid after BSSE to other research animals including New World NHPs, rodents, fish, etc.:
   1.) Initiate immediate first aid (within the first 5 minutes of exposure):
      a. Contaminated skin and wounds should be washed thoroughly for 15 minutes with clean running water or normal saline, a sponge, and a cleansing agent such as povidone-iodine or chlorhexidine.
      b. Contaminated eyes and mucous membranes should be irrigated at an eyewash station for 15 minutes using normal saline or water.
   2.) After administration of first aid, report incident to OMS.

C. Emergency response for extensive or profusely bleeding injuries, immediately call 911 for assistance (see table, Attachment 3, Example SOP, Section B.1.) in addition to notifying the on-duty OMS provider.

Personnel Requirements for all Research Animal Work:
Personnel who handle animals must be trained to help prevent bites, scratches, splashes and exposures (BSSE). The training requirements include but are not limited to completion of the “Using Animals in Intramural Research: Guidelines for Principal Investigators” or “Using Animals in Intramural Research: Guidelines for Animal Users” and triennial completion of the refresher course: (https://oacutraining.od.nih.gov/nih.aspx).

In addition, animal users should complete species-specific hands-on training either through the OACU (https://oacutraining.od.nih.gov/nih.aspx) or the IC ACUC.
IC Program requirements to work with live NHPs or unfixed NHP tissues:

1.) Institute a safety training program for personnel working with live NHPs:
   a. Each IC or animal facility must administer the two-part “Working Safety with Nonhuman Primates” safety awareness training course in coordination with OACU. Personnel who work with live NHPs must complete the training course annually.
   b. The ACUC will coordinate training with the appropriate facility trainer(s).

2.) Establish a B virus Prophylaxis Program:
   a. Each Institute/Center (IC) Animal Program Director (APD) must ensure a B virus prophylaxis program is in place for each animal facility or animal program area (e.g., surgery, pathology, necropsy, imaging area, transportation, etc.) using Old World NHPs, Old World NHP body fluids, equipment potentially contaminated with B virus, or Old World NHP unfixed tissues.
   b. Each IC Safety Committee must review and approve NHP tissue inactivation protocols, including fixation protocols. Guidance on inactivation and verification methods are found in Appendix K of Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories.
   c. The laboratory chief must ensure laboratories manipulating or storing unfixed NHP samples are registered with the NIH Institutional Biosafety Committee (NIH IBC) using PI-DASHBOARD. Each laboratory chief must ensure a B virus prophylaxis program is in place for each laboratory that uses unfixed Old World NHP tissues, body fluids or samples. After the NIH IBC approves the registration and assigns the biosafety level, the laboratory prophylaxis program becomes active.
   d. See sections below for minimum requirements on Incident Response: First Aid, Treatment and Reporting Requirements and Medical Care, Post-Exposure Prophylaxis, and OMS Notification.

3.) Create NHP BSSE SOPs:
   a. All animal programs and laboratories utilizing NHPs or their unfixed tissues at the NIH must develop a written SOP on the handling of NHPs and/or unfixed tissue related exposures at all government owned or leased facilities. Additionally, clear and concise SOPs for handling Old World NHP bites, scratches, splashes of body fluids, or other injuries from equipment potentially contaminated with B virus (e.g., needles, scalpels, caging, etc.) are critical for the protection of investigative and facility personnel.
   b. The SOP must delineate:
      i. The individuals responsible for maintaining the requirements of the SOP
      ii. The individual(s) responsible for training personnel and maintaining training records.
      iii. The minimum requirements for SOPs designed to prevent or treat NHP-related exposures including B virus exposures.
         1. The SOP(s) must be reviewed and approved by the IC Animal Care and Use Committee initially and triennially thereafter, in collaboration with DOHS.
         2. For labs or individuals using only unfixed tissue (i.e., no live animals) the SOP(s) must be reviewed and approved initially and triennially thereafter by the IC safety committee and DOHS.
         3. Facilities housing NHPs posing additional human risk factors (e.g., experimentally exposed to infectious agents, etc.) should develop separate SOPs to address those circumstances.
c. See attachments for minimum requirements for each SOP, an example of an approved SOP, and other related documents. The attached SOP template contains all required elements in a BSSE SOP.

4.) Require Animal Exposure Program enrollment:
   All personnel working with live NHPs; fixed or unfixed NHP tissues, body fluids or samples are required to make an appointment with the Occupational Medical Service (OMS) for a medical evaluation and enroll in the Animal Exposure Program.

5) Require hazard communication training through participation of all laboratory personnel in these Division of Occupational Health and Safety (DOHS) safety and health training classes:
   a. Working Safely with HIV and Other Bloodborne Pathogens for Non-Hospital Personnel (online)
   b. Laboratory Safety Refresher Course (online)
   c. Laboratory-specific training provided by the PI:
      i. NIH Chemical Hygiene Plan
      ii. NIH Exposure Control Program for Non-Hospital Personnel

Approved by Animal Program Directors: 04/16/2016, 10/06/2020
Endorsed by ARAC: 04/27/2016, 03/24/2021

Attachments:
1. NHP BSSE Incident Response: First Aid, Treatment, and Reporting Program Requirements
2. NHP Bite, Scratch, Splash, and other Exposure Training Requirements
3. Example IC Standard Operating Procedure
4. Example First Response Sheet
5. Example Emergency Room Directions and Additional Instructions
6. Example “Attention Emergency Room Physicians and Staff” Instruction Sheet
7. Link to Recommendations for Prevention of and Therapy for Exposure to B Virus
8. Old World NHP Bite, Scratch & Splash Injury: Information Request Form
9. Valacyclovir Drug Information Sheet
10. Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure Response Flowchart

References:
2. NIH Manual Chapter 3040-2: Animal Care and Use in The Intramural Program
First Aid (Wound Decontamination):
Require that a fifteen (15) minute scrub/flush of the exposed area be started immediately (no later than five minutes after exposure). Assistance may be required to scrub wounds or flush eyes or mucous membranes.

- Bite, scratch, puncture or laceration: scrub continuously for 15 minutes while flushing with clean running water or normal saline solution, using a sponge and a cleansing agent such as povidone-iodine or chlorhexidine (found in the BSSE kit).
  - Follow plans established by the IC ahead of time in consideration of cultural/gender/privacy concerns such that no matter which body area is involved in the possible exposure, the affected body part will be flushed and scrubbed for 15 minutes, no later than five minutes after the incident occurs.
- Splash of potentially contaminated fluid to eyes, mouth or nose: flush affected mucous membranes continuously for 15 minutes with clean water or normal saline solution.

Medical Care, Post-Exposure Prophylaxis, and OMS Notification:
Reporting the injury should not be done at the expense of initiating wound cleaning.
Require any injured/exposed individuals immediately notify the Bethesda Main Campus OMS and ask to speak with the OMS provider-on-duty, and state: “I have had an NHP-related injury or incident.”

- Notify Main Campus OMS for all NHP injuries regardless of geographic location.
  - Call 301-496-4411 (Main Campus Clinic), 7:30 am – 5:00 pm ET, Monday – Friday
  - After-hours call 301-496-1211 (NIH Operator), 5:00 pm – 7:30 am ET, Monday – Friday, and on weekends & holidays.
- When possible, a co-worker should make the call to OMS while first aid is performed. Individuals unable to call OMS before completing scrubbing/flushing must call from their worksite immediately after scrubbing/flushing.
- If instructed by the OMS provider, take the prescribed dose of valacyclovir orally, which is located in a sealed bag within the BSSE Kit or other pre-determined, easily accessible location.
- After completing first aid and calling OMS (numbers above, including after hours), immediately proceed to the closest OMS clinic for further evaluation, unless instructed otherwise by the OMS provider.
- OMS Clinic locations:
  - **Bethesda, MD (Main Campus)**
    - Building 10, Room 6C306
    - 7:30 am – 5:00 pm ET  M – F
    - 301-496-4411
  - **Frederick, MD**
    - IRF Fort Detrick, Room 1B116
    - 8:00 am – 4:30 pm ET, M – F
    - 301-631-7233
  - **Baltimore, MD**
    - Bayview Research Center, Room 01B210
    - 8:00 am – 4:30 pm ET, M – F
    - 443-740-2309
  - **Research Triangle Park, NC**
    - National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Room B111
    - 8:00 am – 4:30 pm ET, M – F
Severe Medical Emergencies:
Require that for extensive or profusely bleeding injuries, individuals immediately call 911 for assistance (see table, Attachment 3, Example SOP, Section B.1.) in addition to notifying the on-duty OMS provider.

- The BSSE kit must accompany the injured individual to the emergency room, including the valacyclovir if it is in another pre-determined location.
- For a BSSE involving Old World NHP or Old World NHP tissues or samples advise all emergency personnel that this is a potential B virus injury and universal precautions should be used. (e.g., “I have been bitten/scratched by an NHP that may be infected with B virus/monkey B virus. This is a potentially life-threatening infection. I require immediate treatment. Universal precautions should be used.”)
- Provide emergency room personnel the package “Critical Information to Be Provided to Emergency Room Staff” located in the BSSE kit.
- Emergency room personnel may culture a lesion using the swab and viral culture media in the BSSE kit and give it to the injured individual. See Post Exposure Follow-up - Individual, below.
- For all bite, scratch, splash and exposures from a NHP co-worker should make a follow-up call to the OMS on-call physician via the NIH page operator (301-496-1211) and ask to speak with an OMS provider on duty. Once notified where treatment will be sought (ER, clinic, etc.), the OMS provider will communicate with the attending physician to relay information regarding the exposure.

Require that all injuries be promptly reported to the injured individual’s supervisor, the IC veterinarian, and/or facility manager. In the case of contract employees, the injury must also be reported to the Project Supervisor.

Old World NHP Post Exposure Follow up – Facility:
Require that the “Old World NHP Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure: Information Request Form” (Attachment 8) be completed for all Old World NHP BSSEs within 24 hours of the BSSE and submitted to OMS by Fax (301-402-0673) or encrypted email to OMS@mail.nih.gov and hard copy during normal business hours (see above) on the day of sampling or the next business day following completion of the requirements below:

- Review the NHP’s medical record. Note the date(s) and results of the animal’s previous B virus serology results. Report experimental inoculations (e.g., SIV, HIV, hepatitis, malaria, dengue, etc.), clinical signs or suspected infections. In addition, report the name and contact information for the animal’s principal investigator, as well as the name, phone number, building, and room number of the facility veterinarian.
- For exposures other than bite wounds relay general health information to OMS and ask OMS if a physical exam of the NHP to check for lesions is required. If a physical exam is requested by OMS for that exposure, record results of physical exam noting the presence or absence of ocular conjunctivitis, oral/genital vesicles, ulcerations, or crusts.
- If available, this information should be conveyed verbally to the on-call OMS physician when exposure occur after-hours.
- For a bite wound only from a macaque, unless otherwise directed by OMS: Collect one (1) viral culture from the NHP’s mouth within twenty-four hours of exposure. Samples are not required for other types of exposure.
• Note: If directed by OMS to obtain culture swabs of the animal’s conjunctival, genital and oral mucus membranes, a separate sterile culture swab should be used for the mouth, eyes and genital cultures. When pooling cultures, the swabs can be placed into the same vial of culture media. Care should be taken to ensure that swabs remain submerged at all times in the viral media. Cultures should be immediately refrigerated (2-4°C) and transported to OMS on ice unless otherwise directed by OMS.

• Virus cultures should be identified with:
  o Animal’s number or other identifying information
  o Date specimen was taken
  o Site swabbed (e.g., mouth, eyes, genitalia)
  o Date injury occurred

Old World NHP Post Exposure Follow-up – Individual:
All individuals who have reported to an emergency care facility must also report to OMS with any cultures (as described above) immediately upon returning to work. Cultures should be immediately refrigerated (2-4°C), and then transported to OMS on ice unless otherwise directed by OMS. Always transport viral cultures on ice and ensure that the swabs remain submerged in the culture media at all times. Transport the culture in a secondary watertight container (e.g., a resealable plastic bag) to prevent spillage. When samples cannot be delivered within 72 hours of collection, call the on-call OMS Physician for further instructions, (301) 496-1211.

Old World NHP Post Exposure Follow up – OMS:
OMS will accept viral cultures collected from Old World NHPs and from individuals who have experienced an Old World NHP bite, scratch, splash or other exposure. When an individual who reported to an emergency care facility cannot deliver cultures to OMS within 72 hours of the BSSE, OMS will provide further instruction. Viral cultures will be shipped by an OMS authorized shipper for testing to:

National B Virus Resource Lab/Viral Immunology Center
Georgia State University
161 Jesse Hill, Jr. Drive
Atlanta, GA 30303

Cultures must be shipped as Biological Substance, Category B (UN 3373) using appropriate packaging, following the procedures described in OMS Laboratory Procedures, Section B-virus/NHP BF Exposure.

BSSE Kits – Locations, Contents, Instructions & Maintenance:
Require that a minimum of two (2) Bite, Scratch, Splash, Exposure (BSSE) Kits for human care be accessible to all personnel working in all areas where NHPs are housed or manipulated, and that staff are aware of their location.

Identify the location(s) and minimum number of kits to be maintained in each facility or program area. Viral culture media within the kits must be refrigerated at 2-4°C at all times. Signage should be present in both the room and on the refrigerator indicating the presence of the kit. Care should be taken to ensure that an injured individual has unencumbered access to the location where the kit is stored. A program or schedule for checking and replenishing the kits must be established and must indicate the individuals responsible for ensuring the presence and adequacy of the kits.

• A list of the location of each kit will be provided to the Animal Program Director and the IC safety committee annually for their review and approval. An updated list for each facility should be sent
annually to the ACUC of the lead IC. OACU, and the Animal Program Safety Manager (DOHS), for their information.

Require Bite, Scratch, Splash, Exposure (BSSE) Kit be a portable, self-contained unit containing the following items:

- One (1) Chlorhexidine surgical scrub brush.
- One (1) “First Response Guidance for Potential Exposure to B Virus” poster (example in Attachment 4).
- One (1) “Emergency Room Directions and Additional Instructions” sheet with the emergency room phone number and a map to the hospital emergency room recommended by the NIH DOHS for your program or facility (Attachment 5).
- An envelope/plastic bag labeled “Critical Information to Be Provided to Emergency Room Staff”, containing:
  - One (1) “Attention: Emergency Room Physicians and Staff” instruction sheet (example in Attachment 6).
  - One (1) copy of your ACUC approved Bite, Scratch, Splash, Exposure SOP (example shown in Attachment 3).
  - One (1) Vial of viral culture media.
  - One (1) Sterile culture swab (cotton or Dacron).
  - One (1) Water resistant marking pen.
- An envelope/plastic bag, labeled as follows: “Valacyclovir: To Be Taken Orally Only as Directed by an NIH Occupational Medical Service Physician”, containing:
  - One (1) copy of “Valacyclovir Drug Information Sheet” (Attachment 9).
  - Valacyclovir
    - Dose is 1000 mg (either two 500-mg tablets or one 1000 mg tablet) every eight hours (1000 mg TID).
    - Each kit contains a minimum of ten doses = 20 x 500-mg tablets or equivalent (for initial dose plus 3 days).
    - Require each Bite, Scratch, Splash, Exposure (BSSE) Kit be dated with the expiration date of the earliest dated product in the kit.
    - Note: Valacyclovir may be located in another pre-determined, easily accessible location, should facility with biosafety considerations require that.
Attachment 2. NHP Bite, Scratch,Splash, and Other Exposure Training Requirements

**Required Training:**

Require that all personnel working with or having access to NHPs receive training on this Bite Scratch, Splash, Exposure (BSSE) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), as well as the required NIH “Working Safely with Nonhuman Primates” course. The SOP should delineate the individual(s) responsible for training and maintaining training records.

In accordance with NIH Policy Manual 3044-2: “Working Safely with Nonhuman Primates” in-person training is conducted in two components, a general IC program session and a facility specific component. Annual refresher training covering all the components outlined below in “IC Training Component” and “Facility Training Component” by anyone using live NHPs is also required. Please consult your ACUC coordinator or your IC’s NHP User Safety Trainer to register for this training.

Trainers administering the “Working Safely with Nonhuman Primates” course must first complete the in-person “Nonhuman Primate Train-the-Trainer” course (https://oacutraining.od.nih.gov/) provided by OACU and must recertify by retaking this course annually. OACU will maintain a list of trainers.

It is at the discretion of each facility’s lead IC Animal Program Director whether to accept training performed at another IC as part of entry requirements for a facility. With respect to this guidance, annual participation in any one IC’s training meets the NIH requirements for working with live NHPs absent further IC or facility requirements.

For individuals using only unfixed tissues (i.e., no live animals) both “Working Safely with Nonhuman Primates,” and “Working Safely with HIV and Other Bloodborne Pathogens for Non-Hospital Personnel” online course are required initially. Subsequently, “Working Safely with HIV and Other Bloodborne Pathogens for Non-Hospital Personnel” online course is the only annual requirement.

**General Didactic Training Component:**

- Provide a short background/summary of the B virus and its relevancy to humans.
- Review pertinent NIH Policy Manual requirements.
- Provide a concise description of the first aid to be administered at the worksite in response to a bite, scratch, splash, or injury from equipment contaminated with Old World NHP body fluids.
- Place emphasis on the importance of initiating flushing while scrubbing for 15 minutes within five (5) minutes of injury or exposure.
- **Non-mucosal Membrane Exposure**: Require for sites of exposure other than the eyes, mouth, nose or other mucosal surface, that the wound be scrubbed continuously for 15 minutes while flushing with clean running water or normal saline solution, using a sponge and a cleansing agent (e.g., chlorhexidine or povidone-iodine found in the BSSE kit). After scrubbing, the wound should be thoroughly rinsed with water or normal saline solution.
- **Mucosal Membrane Exposure**: Require for exposures to the eyes, mouth, nose or other mucosal surfaces that the site be flushed continuously for 15 minutes with rapidly flowing water or normal saline solution.
- Emphasize that direct hand to mouth feeding of Old World NHPs is prohibited. The presentation of food, fluids or research test agents to the mouths of Old World NHPs may only be conducted indirectly, e.g., using tongs, utensil or research apparatuses.
• Additional information on training requirements and resources can be found at: https://oacu.oir.nih.gov/training-resources

Specific Facility Training Component (in-person training is encouraged):

• A template for this training will be provided by OACU (available as the Training Package List within the NHP Training Resources). ICs may modify the training as necessary for their facility.
• Review the facility personal protective equipment requirements, the location(s) of the Bite, Scratch, Splash, Exposure (BSSE) kit and review the location(s) and operation of eyewash stations.
• Review procedures for how to repel an escaped animal and where necessary equipment is kept.
• Review, discuss and establish plans ahead of time for cultural/gender/privacy concerns as appropriate and remind trainee that no matter where on the body the injury occurs, the exposure site must still be flushed and scrubbed for 15 minutes no later than five minutes after the exposure occurs.
• Review the locations of hoses, showers or other mechanisms to allow wounds to be flushed on body areas that do not easily fit into a scrub sink. Install hoses and/or equipment in facilities where necessary to ensure no delay in flushing.
• Review the requirement that injured/exposed individuals immediately notify the Bethesda Main Campus OMS and ask to speak with the OMS provider-on-duty, and state: “I have had a NHP-related injury or incident.” Notify Main Campus OMS for all NHP injuries regardless of geographic location.
  → Call 301-496-4411 (Main Campus Clinic), 7:30 am – 5:00 pm ET, Monday – Friday
  → After-hours call 301-496-1211 (NIH Operator), 5:00 pm – 7:30 am ET, Monday – Friday, and on weekends & holidays.
If the local OMS clinic is called, the local OMS clinic will contact the Main Campus Clinic for approval of post-exposure prophylaxis administration
• Additional resources for facility training components are available at: https://oacu.oir.nih.gov/training-resources
• Facilities housing NHPs are further required to:
  o Ensure comprehensive personnel wound flushing equipment and NHP BSSE response instruction charts and kit(s) are located near or in NHP housing and laboratory areas.
  o Ensure ancillary safety items are placed in Old World NHP housing areas; and personnel working in these areas are briefed on their location, purpose, and proper use. Ensure all NHP husbandry personnel understand the facility’s NHP cage-to-cage transfer procedures and use two-person teams when moving unanesthetized Old World NHPs between cages.
  o Ensure all NHP users utilize two-person teams when moving unanesthetized Old World NHPs between cages and restraint devices outside routine facility working hours. The second team member (observer) may observe the procedure from a window looking into the movement area.
  o Provide required annual refresher training covering all of the components outlined in “IC Training Component” and “Facility Training Component” by anyone using live NHPs.
  o Emphasize that direct hand to mouth feeding of Old World primates is prohibited. The presentation of food, fluids or research test agents to the mouths of Old World NHPs may only be conducted indirectly using tongs, utensil or research apparatuses.
  o Brief all personnel using pole and collar devices to move Old World NHPs on the appropriate technique annually.
  o Ensure the personal protective equipment (PPE) required for working with NHPs in husbandry or research areas is based on the results of a job hazard analysis as described in ARAC PPE Guidelines.
Attachment 3. Example IC Standard Operating Procedure

SOP Number:
Date Issued:
Date Revised:

TITLE: Old World NHP Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure Program
PURPOSE: To establish safe guidelines for exposures to a) oral, genital or ocular secretions, body fluids/excretions, or unfixed tissue from Old World NHPs; or b) injuries from equipment potentially contaminated with B virus.

The adequacy and timeliness of wound decontamination and initiation of appropriate postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) are the most important factors determining the risk of infection after exposure to B virus (Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1). Thorough cleaning within five minutes of injury or exposure is the only means of preventing B virus contamination from progressing to actual infection. B virus may enter host cells within five (5) minutes.

All personnel working with or having access to Old World NHPs, their body fluids, unfixed tissues, or equipment potentially contaminated with B virus, must receive annual training on this SOP, as well as have completed both components of the NIH Working Safely with Nonhuman Primates course. For individuals using only unfixed tissues (i.e., no live animals) both courses are required initially, but for subsequent years the DOHS Bloodborne Pathogens course is the only annual training requirement.

Documentation of training must be maintained by the respective contract or government (facility, IC) group conducting the training. In addition, “First Response” signs shall be posted in all housing, procedure or laboratory areas where any NHPs including old world primates or their unfixed tissues are located to indicate the location of Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure (BSSE) kits.

Personnel must be familiar with the location of the Bite, Scratch Splash Exposure (BSSE) Kit- in their area, the location of the nearest eyewash stations, as well as the technique for collection of viral cultures from a wound or potential exposure site. Eyewash stations are located in the following areas: XXXXXX. Bite, Scratch, Splash, Exposure (BSSE) Kits are located in the refrigerators found in the following locations: XXXXX.

Background:
B virus (Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1, formerly known as Macacine herpesvirus 1 or Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1, CHV-1) is enzootic among old world monkeys of the genus Macaca and causes minimal morbidity in these monkeys. In contrast, human infections with B virus may present with rapidly ascending encephalomyelitis and have a fatality rate of at least 70%. This infection remains an uncommon result of Old World NHP injuries, typically macaque-related injuries, although the increase in the use of macaques for research on Simian Immunodeficiency Virus (SIV) and other research foci has expanded the number of opportunities for human exposure. It is important to remember that B-virus infection can also occur subsequent to exposure to Old World NHP products (unfixed tissues, cell cultures, body fluids, etc.).

Reference:
 Procedures

A. First aid at the worksite for Old World NHP bites, scratches, splashes, exposures to unfixed tissues, body fluids, and injuries from needle sticks or other equipment potentially contaminated with B virus:

1. Cleansing must begin immediately (no later than five minutes after exposure).
2. Review, discuss and establish plans ahead of time for cultural/gender/privacy concerns as appropriate and remind individual that no matter where on the body the exposure occurs, the exposure site must still be flushed and scrubbed for 15 minutes no later than five minutes after initial exposure.
3. Non-mucosal Membrane Exposure: Require for sites of exposure other than the eyes, mouth, nose or other mucosal surface, that the wound be scrubbed continuously for 15 minutes while flushing with clean running water or normal saline solution, using a sponge and a cleansing agent (e.g., chlorhexidine or povidone-iodine). After scrubbing, the wound should be thoroughly rinsed with water or normal saline solution.
4. Mucosal Membrane Exposure: Require for exposures to the eyes, mouth, nose or other mucosal surfaces that the site be flushed continuously for 15 minutes with rapidly flowing water or normal saline solution.
5. Anyone assisting another person with scrubbing/flushing of a wound should be wearing fresh, clean gloves, and exercising universal precautions to prevent exposing themselves.

B. OMS Reporting Requirements and Follow-up Care:

1. In acute situations where the injury is extensive and/or profusely bleeding, the injured person or someone nearby should immediately call 911 for assistance (off-campus call 9-911). The emergency responders should be advised that the individual has been potentially exposed to B virus and that universal precautions must be used. One of the Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure (BSSE) Kits located in the refrigerator in rooms XXXXX should accompany the injured person to the Emergency Department.

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<td>RTP, NC</td>
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<td>Hamilton, MT</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Dialing 301-496-9911 from a cell phone on campus is not required. 911 calls will go to the county and they will gather information and transfer the call to the NIH Police.

** There is no NIH Campus Switch ISDN service in these locations. Service is local.

*** Poolesville ISDN lines can dial either, 911 calls to NIH police will be transferred to the county.

2. Promptly report all cases of Old World NHP bites, scratches, splashes, needle sticks, or other exposures to your supervisor, the Facility Veterinarian and/or Facility Manager, and in the case of contract employees, also your project supervisor. THIS SHOULD NOT BE DONE AT THE EXPENSE OF INITIATING WOUND CLEANSING OR SEEKING MEDICAL CARE. It is advisable to
ask someone nearby to assist with notifications while the injured person begins cleansing the affected body parts. The incident should subsequently be recorded in the facility injury log.

3. **Contact OMS immediately for evaluation and treatment beyond first aid:**
   a. Cleansing/flushing must begin immediately (no later than five minutes after exposure).
   b. The injured/exposed person must promptly notify OMS and ask to speak with the OMS provider-on-duty. State: “I have had an NHP-related injury or incident” either while performing first aid or immediately thereafter.
   c. **During clinic hours, call 301-496-4411** (Main Campus Clinic), 7:30 am – 5:00 pm ET, Monday – Friday.
   d. **After hours, call 301-496-1211** (NIH Operator), 5:00 pm – 7:30 am, Monday – Friday, and weekends & holidays, and ask for the OMS provider on call.
   e. When possible, a co-worker should call OMS via the NIH page operator 301-496-1211 while the injured/exposed person is performing first aid. Individuals unable to call before scrubbing/flushing must call the OMS immediately after scrubbing/flushing.
   f. If instructed by the OMS Physician, take the prescribed dose of valacyclovir orally. Valacyclovir is located in a sealed bag within the “Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure Kit”.
   g. After appropriate decontamination and initial notifications, the injured/exposed person should immediately proceed to the on-site OMS clinic for indicated testing, treatment and counseling.
   h. **OMS clinic locations and hours:**
      - **Bethesda, MD (Main Campus)**
        Building 10, Room 6C306
        7:30 am – 5:00 pm ET, M – F
        301-496-4411
      - **Frederick, MD**
        IRF Fort Detrick, Room 1B116
        8:00 am – 4:30 pm ET, M – F
        301-631-7233
      - **Baltimore, MD**
        Bayview Research Center, Room 01B210
        8:00 am – 4:30 pm ET, M – F
        443-740-2309
      - **Research Triangle Park (RTP), NC**
        National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Room B111
        8:00 am – 4:30 pm ET, M – F
        984-287-4177
      - **Hamilton, MT**
        Rocky Mountain Laboratories, Room 5202
        7:30 am – 5:00 pm MT, M – F
        406-375-9755
   i. If instructed by the OMS provider to proceed to the XXXXXXX hospital emergency room, take a Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure Kit (located in both the treatment room and lobby refrigerators on each floor housing Old World NHPs) along with you to the hospital. Directions to XXXXXXX hospital emergency room are located in the Kit. Immediately upon arrival at the emergency room, tell them you are from NIH, and provide them with the envelope/plastic bag labeled “Critical Information to be Provided to Emergency Room Staff” located in your Kit.
j. Provide the emergency department physician with the contact information for the OMS provider on duty to facilitate risk assessment and coordination of medical care.

k. Convey to emergency paramedics and XXXXX hospital emergency room staff that the affected body area(s) should be considered contaminated with B virus, and that anyone examining or cleansing the affected areas must use universal precautions. Describe the first aid performed and medications already taken.

l. If wound cultures are taken by ER staff, they should be immediately refrigerated (2-4°C) and transported to OMS on ice. It is important that the swabs remain submerged in the viral medium during transport and storage. It is mandatory that you report with the culture(s) and any additional samples taken at the emergency facility to OMS without delay on the next business day. Always keep the cultures on ice during transport and ensure that the swabs remain in the culture media. On long weekends or holidays etc., when samples cannot be delivered within 72 hours of collection, call the on-call OMS physician for further instructions, (301) 496-1211.

C. Required Cultures and Information from the NHP:
As soon as possible, complete and fax Section A of the Old World NHP Bite, Scratch & Splash Injury: Information Request Form to the NIH Occupational Medical Service at (301) 402-0673. Include the name of the injured individual and the exposure details. Examine the monkey’s medical record. Note the date(s) and results of the animal’s previous B virus serology. In addition, report experimental inoculations, clinical signs, or suspected infections. Report the name and contact information for the animal’s principal investigator, as well as the name, phone number, building, and room number of the facility veterinarian. Within 24 hours of the injury, the required animal sample is collected, and section B of the form is completed and submitted to OMS. A copy of the submitted form shall be maintained in the animal’s permanent medical record.

Under the authorization of the facility veterinarian, the animal will be anesthetized, and the following procedures conducted by trained facility personnel within twenty-four (24) hours of the injury when indicated:

Required Supplies:
   a. Two (2) pairs of exam gloves
   b. Facility required personal protective equipment,
   c. One vial of viral culture media
   d. One (1) sterile culture swab
   e. Water resistant marking pen

The following examination and procedures should be conducted within twenty-four hours of the initial exposure. Monkey viral cultures and serum should be delivered directly to OMS during on-site clinic hours. Cultures should be immediately refrigerated (2-4°C) and transported to OMS on ice. Viral cultures must be transported on ice and care must be taken to ensure that the culturette swabs remain submerged in the culture media at all times.

1. Two pairs of exam gloves, mucous membrane protection (ocular and oral) must be worn when handling the monkey in addition to the facility-required personal protective equipment.

2. For macaque bites only, unless otherwise instructed by the OMS provider on call, anesthetize the monkey per the veterinarian’s instructions and verify the following: species, tattoo number
and/or microchip implant identification number. Perform a physical examination of the animal, noting any signs of disease. It is extremely important to note and report the presence or absence of mucosal ulcerations, vesicles or crusts in either the oral or genital regions. In addition, the presence or absence of conjunctivitis should be noted and also reported. Record findings on the “Old World NHP Bite, Scratch & Splash Injury: Information Request Form” and in the animal’s permanent medical record.

3. If the injury was a macaque bite, or if directed by OMS; provide one (1) viral culture from the monkey’s mouth.

4. For macaque bites only, unless otherwise instructed by the OMS provider on call, obtain a buccal (oral) viral culture from the macaque’s mouth, using care to swab any lesions which may be present. To obtain the culture, grasp the stick portion of the sterile cotton-tipped swab, using care not to contaminate the cotton swab end of the stick. The swab is then passed through a full 360 degrees of the mouth using care to only touch the oral mucosa of the animal. The swab should also be passed over any oral ulcers that might be present in the mouth or at the mucocutaneous junction. The cotton tip of the applicator should be inserted into the viral culture transport vial. Holding the vial and swab at arm’s length, bend the swab toward you until it snaps leaving the cotton-tipped portion of the applicator remaining in the vial submerged in the culture media. Immediately place the viral cultures on ice, taking care to ensure that the swabs are submerged in the culture media.

5. Seal the vial, label it with the following information and immediately place it on ice:
   i. Date
   ii. NHP’s identifying information
   iii. Sample Location(s) = Mucosal Swabs (buccal)
   iv. Injury Date (The date that the Bite, Scratch or Splash Occurred)

6. Submit the culture to OMS along with the name, phone number, building, and room number of the facility veterinarian. It is important that the swabs remain submerged in the viral medium during storage and/or transport. Samples should be kept on ice or refrigerated at all times, even during transport. A cup containing wet ice at the bottom is normally sufficient. Specimens transported to OMS should be taken directly to the triage nurse. The individual transporting the specimens must sign on the triage sheet and indicate to the triage nurse/administrator the purpose of their visit. To the best of your ability, answer any questions that the receiving OMS staff may have about the specimens. If you are unsure of any answer, contact the facility veterinarian or facility manager for assistance. The OMS staff will connect the individual transporting the specimens with the appropriate clinician who will take custody of the specimens. Transport viral cultures on ice, taking care to ensure that the swabs remain submerged in the culture media.

D. Bite, Scratch, Splash, Exposure Kit Contents:
Each BSSE kit shall be refrigerated (2-4 C) and contain the following:

The following supplies are to be placed in a sealed plastic bag/sleeve and labeled with the title “Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure (BSSE) Kit” and the earliest expiration date found inside the kit:
   1. One (1) Chlorhexidine surgical scrub brush
2. One (1) “First Response Guidance for Potential Exposure to B Virus” poster (example in Attachment 4).

3. One (1) “Emergency Room Directions and Additional Instructions” sheet with the emergency room phone number and a map to the hospital emergency room approved by the NIH DOHS for your program or facility (Attachment 5).

4. An envelope/plastic bag labeled “Critical Information to Be Provided to Emergency Room Staff”, containing:
   a. One (1) “Attention: Emergency Room Physicians and Staff” instruction sheet (example in Attachment 6).
   c. One (1) copy of the IC ACUC approved Bite, Scratch & Splash Care SOP (Attachment 3).
   d. One (1) Vial of viral culture media
   e. One (1) Sterile culture swab (cotton or Dacron)
   f. One (1) Water resistant marking pen

5. An envelope/plastic bag, labeled as follows: “Valacyclovir: To Be Taken Orally Only as Directed by an NIH Occupational Medical Service Physician”. Contact OMS before taking:
   a. During Clinic Hours (7:30 AM – 5:00 PM ET, Monday-Friday): Call OMS at (301)496-4411 for further care instructions.
   b. After-hours, Weekends, & Holidays: Call the NIH Page Operator at (301) 496-1211 and ask to be immediately connected with the On-Call OMS Physician.
   c. This envelope/plastic bag shall contain:
   d. One (1) copy of “Valacyclovir Drug Information Sheet” (Attachment 9).
   e. Valacyclovir
      i. Dose is 1000 mg (either two 500-mg tablets or one 1000 mg tablet) every eight hours.
      ii. Each kit contains a minimum of ten doses = 20 x 500mg tablets or equivalent (for initial dose plus 3 days). Require each Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure (BSSE) Kit “B virus Exposure Prophylaxis Kit” be dated with the expiration date of the earliest dated product in the kit.
      iii. Note: Valacyclovir may be located in another pre-determined, easily accessible location, should facility biosafety considerations require that.

Care should be taken to ensure that all kits are easily opened under emergency situations.

XXX [number of] BSSE Kits shall be maintained by the XXX in the refrigerator(s) located in the following locations XXXX. The location of the kits within the refrigerator must be clearly visible when entering the unit.

Each refrigerator containing BSSE Kits and, if applicable the room where the refrigerator is located must be clearly identified with a sign indicating the location of the kits. The signs shall read, “Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure (BSSE) Kits Located in This Refrigerator” or “Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure (BSSE) Kits Can Be Found In The Refrigerator Located in This Room”. In addition, the refrigerator signs must also clearly indicate the location of the nearest sink and eyewash station. All identified sinks and eyewash stations should have unobstructed access without the need to use cardkeys or access codes.
If there are any questions pertaining to the integrity of the Bite, Scratch, & Splash Kit found in a malfunctioning refrigerator they should be immediately replaced with new kits.

If justified and approved by the facility management, additional locations will be identified and maintained by the XXXX.

A log shall be maintained with the location and expiration dates of all facility BSSE kits. Expired kits shall be replaced a minimum of seven days prior to their expiration date.

E. **Procurement of Valacyclovir:**
Valacyclovir is procured through the NIH Veterinary Pharmacy by submitting a routine purchase request (NIH 1861-1). The procurement shall be for valacyclovir, 500 mg or 1 gram scored tablets, in UD packaging. A statement must also be included indicating that the procurement is to support the NIH NHP Bite, Scratch, Splash Exposure (NHP BSSE) Program. In addition to the requester’s signature and signature of the program official approving the expenditure of funds.

F. **Schedule for Checking and Replenishing Kits:**
Describe the program or schedule for checking and replenishing the kits and indicate the individuals responsible for ensuring the presence and adequacy of the kits. A list of the location of each kit will be provided to the IC safety committee annually for their review and approval and annually to the ACUC of the lead IC for each facility for their information.

G. **Emergency Contacts:**

Facility Veterinarian/Facility Manager: (XXX) XXX-XXXX  
NIH Occupational Medical Service: (301) 496-4411  
NIH Operator (OMS After-hours Pager Service): (301) 496-1211  
NIH Occupational Medical Service FAX: (301) 402-0673  
XXXXXX Hospital Emergency Room: (XXX) XXX-XXXX  
On-campus Critical Medical Situations:  
  • On-campus Ambulance: 911  
  • Off-campus Ambulance: 9-911
For any **BITE, SCRATCH, PUNCTURE, or LACERATION** from any potentially contaminated sharp or equipment:

- Wound cleansing must **begin** in less than 5 minutes
- Scrub continuously for 15 minutes while flushing with water or saline, using a sponge and a cleansing agent such as povidone-iodine or chlorhexidine
- Follow the reporting instructions outlined below

For any **SPLASH** of potentially contaminated fluid into eyes, nose, or mouth:

- Exposure flushing must begin in less than 5 minutes
- Flush site with water or saline for 15 minutes
- Follow the reporting instructions outlined below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of Nearest BSSE Kit:</th>
<th>Location of Nearest Eyewash Station:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Reporting Instructions (Monday – Friday, 7:30AM – 5:00PM):**

- Call NIH Occupational Medical Services (OMS) at 301-496-4411 for additional wound care and antiviral administration instructions
- Report to NIH OMS in Building 10, Room 6C306, as soon as possible
- Call 911 for transportation, if needed (Off campus: 9-911)
- Notify supervisor of the injury or exposure

**When an exposure occurs outside normal OMS working hours, i.e., 5:00PM to 7:30AM Monday – Friday, Weekends & Holidays:**

- **Flush/clean** exposure area as outlined above.
- Call the NIH Page Operator 301-496-1211.
- Give your name, location, and phone number.
- Ask to be immediately contacted by the On-call OMS Physician. If no response within 15 minutes, page again.
- If instructed by the Physician, take the antiviral medication orally.
- If instructed by the Physician, report to the XXXXX Hospital Emergency Room (301-XXX-XXXX).
- Hospital directions and further instructions are located in the B-Virus Exposure Prophylaxis Kit; **take the kit with you to the emergency room.**
- Call 911 for transportation, if needed. (Off-campus: 9-911)
- Notify supervisor, Facility Veterinarian and Manager of the injury.
Emergency Room Directions and Additional Instructions

• Directions and a map to the XXXXX Hospital Emergency Room (XXX-XXX-XXXX) are located on the back of this sheet.

• Take this kit with you to the emergency room (ER)

• Upon arrival, inform the emergency room personnel that you are from NIH and provide them with the Attention Emergency Room Physicians and Staff instruction sheet included in this kit.

• Refrigerate any cultures provided to you by emergency room personnel in your work area. Care should be taken to ensure that at all times swabs remain submerged in the viral medium. Cultures should be immediately refrigerated (2-4°C) and transported to OMS on ice unless otherwise directed.

• If you have not already done so, report your injury to your supervisor, the facility veterinarian, and facility manager.

• Report, with your cultures, to the NIH Occupational Medical Service (Building 10, Room 6C306) without delay on the next business day following the injury/exposure.

[PRINT DIRECTIONS AND MAP ON BACK OF EMERGENCY ROOM DIRECTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FLYER]
ATTENTION EMERGENCY ROOM
PHYSICIANS AND STAFF

This individual has been potentially exposed to B virus (*Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1, Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1, CHV-1*). B virus may enter host cells within 5 minutes of exposure and cause a potentially life-threatening infection. **Immediate treatment is required!**

Page the NIH Occupational Medical Service On-Call Physician at 301-496-1211 for further information and instructions.

• USE UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS •

**Injuries Occurring on the Mucosal Surface of the Eye, Mouth and/or Nose:**

• Flush or irrigate the area for at least 15 minutes with rapidly flowing water or sterile saline solution (0.9% NaCl).

**All Other Injuries:**

• Clean the wound under running water with a cleansing agent such as chlorhexidine or povidone-iodine using the sponge side of a surgical scrub brush for at least 15 minutes.
• Irrigate the lesion with sterile saline to remove any detergent remaining from the treatment.
• Culture the lesion using the swab and viral culture media enclosed in the BSSE Kit provided by the patient and label the culture with the patient’s name and date.
• Administer other medical treatment or aid as required.
• Instruct the patient to transport the culture on ice, ensuring that the swab remains in the media at all times. Have the patient refrigerate the culture (2-4° C) and report with the culture to the NIH Occupational Medical Service without delay on the next business day following the injury/exposure.

[See the literature enclosed in the NIH BSSE kit for further information]
Attachment 7. Link to Recommendations for Prevention of and Therapy for Exposure to B Virus

When finalizing the BSSE kit, insert the following article as Attachment 7:

**Recommendations for Prevention of and Therapy for Exposure to B Virus (Cercopithecine Herpesvirus 1)**


Jeffrey I. Cohen,¹ David S. Davenport,² John A. Stewart,³ Scott Deitchman,³ Julia K. Hilliard,⁴ Louisa E. Chapman,³ and the B Virus Working Group⁸

¹Medical Virology Section, Laboratory of Clinical Investigation, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland; ²Division of Infectious Diseases, Michigan State University Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies, Kalamazoo; and ³Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and ⁴Viral Immunology Center, Georgia State University, Atlanta
**Old World NHP Bite, Scratch, Splash, Exposure: Information Request Form**

Complete and FAX Section A to the NIH Occupational Medical Service (OMS) at (301) 402-0673 as soon as possible following a human injury involving a macaque or their body fluids, or as directed by OMS. Following physical examination of the animal, complete Section B and bring the form to OMS along with the requested NHP serum and culture samples.

**Section A:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Injured Employee:</th>
<th>Date of Injury:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of Injury:</strong></td>
<td>Reported to: OMS ☐ ER ☐ Supervisor ☐ Facility ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Antiviral Administration:</strong> YES ☐ NO ☐</td>
<td>Prescribing Physician:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Macaque Signalment:**
Permanent Identification Number: _______________________________________________________
Species (e.g., rhesus, cynomologus, etc.): ___________________________________________

**Medical Records Review:**
B virus serology/PCR – Date(s): __________ Results: __________ Testing Facility: __________
Experimental Inoculations: ____________________________________________________________
Known Illness(es): __________________________________________________________________
Known Signs of Disease: _____________________ ____________________________________________

**Section B (submit to OMS with samples, if applicable):**

**Samples Submitted:**
Serum ☐ Cultures: Buccal ☐ Pooled ocular/genital ☐ Pooled buccal/ocular/genital ☐

**Physical Examination** (note presence or absence of conjunctivitis, oral, or genital mucosal ulcerations, vesicles, or crusts, etc.):
No lesions present ☐ Lesions observed ☐ Please specify: ________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Veterinarian Name:</th>
<th>Phone Number:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IC:</td>
<td>Work Address:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investigator Name:</th>
<th>Phone Number:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IC:</td>
<td>Work Address:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Name of Veterinarian/Technician Conducting Examination:**

**Date/Time:**

**Phone Number:**
**VALACYCLOVIR (500mg tablet or 1000mg scored tablet)**

*To Be Administered Orally Only Under the Direction Of the NIH On-Call Occupational Medical Service (OMS) Physician*

Valacyclovir is used for:
Valacyclovir is a medication used to treat infections caused by certain viruses. It works by stopping the virus from reproducing. You are provided with this medication because you may have been exposed to Herpes B virus from an Old World NHP.

Before using valacyclovir:
Tell the OMS Physician if you have any medical conditions, especially if any of the following apply to you:
- if you have had a bone marrow or kidney transplant
- if you take medication for HIV or AIDS
- if you have kidney disease

How to use valacyclovir and side effects:
This package contains 3 days of doses to last until you are further evaluated in the closest NIH OMS clinic. Upon instruction by the OMS on-call physician, take 1000mg by mouth 3 times daily (1000mg every 8 hours). Depending on the kit, one dose is either one 1000mg tablet or two 500mg tablets.

- You may take valacyclovir by mouth with or without food. If stomach upset occurs, take with food to reduce stomach irritation. It may cause headaches or dizziness. This effect may be worse if you take it with alcohol or certain medicines. These symptoms are mild and infrequent and should not cause you to stop the medication.

- If you miss a dose of valacyclovir, take it as soon as possible. If it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular dosing schedule. Do not take 2 doses at once.

- A very serious allergic reaction to the drug is rare. However, get immediate medical attention if you develop a rash, itching/swelling (especially of the face/tongue/throat), severe dizziness, or trouble breathing.

CONTACT US:

Occupational Medical Service (301) 496-4411 (Monday through Friday; 7:30am – 5:00pm ET)
After Hours – Page On-Call OMS Physician (301) 496-1211 through the NIH Operator
1. **Exposure Occurs:** Body fluid or fresh tissue exposure; Bite scratch, splash, or other injury

2. **Administer First Aid:** Begin scrubbing/flushing within 5 minutes of exposure. Continue for 15 minutes.

3. **Contact OMS:**
   - **Work Hours** (M-F, 7:30AM-5PM)
     - Contact OMS Physician: 301-496-4411
     - Call 911 for transport, if needed
   - **After Hours, Weekends and Holidays**
     - Contact OMS On-Call Physician: 301-496-1211
     - Call 911 for transport, if needed

4. **Follow OMS Physician Instructions:**
   - If instructed, take valacyclovir immediately.
   - If instructed, proceed to OMS or designated medical facility. If after hours, weekend, or holiday, take packet in BSSE kit containing instructions and culture tubes.

Note: ALWAYS begin flushing/scrubbing within five (5) minutes of injury or exposure. While exposure is being flushed/scrubbed, a supervisor or coworker can contact OMS for further instructions.