

High Risk Biological Materials and Activities Schedule

1 Purpose

To inform the biological approvals process for high risk biological materials and activities.

2 Scope

This schedule must be read in conjunction with the Biosafety Procedure and is subordinate to it. This schedule outlines the potential high-risk biological materials and activities that are monitored by the University of Southern Queensland Institutional Biosafety Committee.

3 Schedule

Material or Organisms	Description
Risk Group 4 microorganisms	Risk Group 4 microorganisms that may produce life-threatening human or Animal disease, represent significant risk to laboratory workers and may be readily transmissible from one individual to another. Effective treatment and preventive measures are not usually available. Risk Group 4 species are defined by the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2243.3:2010 Safety in laboratories - Microbiological safety and containment.
Risk Group 3 microorganisms	Risk Group 3 microorganisms that that may produce life-threatening human or Animal disease, represent a significant risk to laboratory workers and may be readily transmissible from one individual to another. It could present a limited to moderate risk if spread in the community or environment, but there are usually effective preventative measures or treatment available. Risk Group 3 species are defined by the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2243.3:2010 Safety in laboratories - Microbiological safety and containment.
Risk Group 2 microorganisms requiring special precautions	Risk Group 2 microorganisms requiring special precautions are risk group 2 microorganisms that are transmissible by respiratory route or require special handling precautions. As indicated in the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2243.3:2010 Safety in laboratories - Microbiological safety and containment.
Unscreened specimens	Unscreened specimens including human tissue known to contain microorganisms from risk group 2, 3 or 4, or have not been screened for infectious disease; Animal tissue or body fluids that could contain

	zoonosis or have not been screened for such.
Animals, tissues or fluids	Infectious or potentially infectious Animals, tissues or fluids (wild, domestic or international) involving microorganisms from risk group 2, 3 or 4.
Biological Toxins	Biological Toxins such as venoms and other toxic substances produced by microorganisms, Animals or plants. Includes poisonous or venomous Animals such as snakes, spiders and cone shells. Includes synthetic toxins or biologicals.
Security Sensitive Biological Materials	Security Sensitive Biological Materials (SSBA's) Tier 1 and Tier 2 agents as listed on the SSBA Regulatory Scheme.
DSGL Biological Materials	DSGL Biological Materials on the Defence Strategic Goods List (DSGL) 2019.
Other Risk Group 2 and Risk Group 1 microorganisms of concern	<p>Other Risk Group 2 and Risk Group 1 microorganisms of concern, such as bacterial or fungal microorganisms used in Physical Containment 1 facilities where it is deemed by the Biosafety Advisor to require assessment and approval through the IBC in consideration of at least the following risk factors, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capability of physical containment facilities where the requested activity is expected to occur; • Required Research or teaching skills for the requested activity; • Required laboratory and Research supervision for the requested activity. <p>Potential contamination of existing Research projects</p>
Prions	Prions, as indicated in (but not limited to) the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2243.3:2010 Safety in laboratories - Microbiological safety and containment.
Plants, plant tissues or seeds	Plants, plant tissues or seeds requiring any form of permit or licence from any State or Federal Agency.

4 References

Nil.

5 Schedule Information

Accountable Officer	Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer
Responsible Officer	Chief People Officer
Policy Type	University Procedure
Policy Suite	Work Health and Safety Policy
Approved Date	7/7/2025
Effective Date	7/7/2025
Review Date	31/3/2026
Relevant Legislation	Biosecurity Act 2014 (Qld) Biosecurity Act 2015 (Cwlth) Biosecurity Regulation 2016 (Qld) Defence Trade Controls Act 2012 (Cwlth) Defence Trade Controls Regulation 2013 (Cwlth) Gene Technology Act 2000 (Cwlth) Gene Technology Act 2016 (Qld) Gene Technology Regulations 2001 (Cwlth) National Health Security Act 2007 National Security Regulations 2018 Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld) Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (Qld)
Policy Exceptions	Policy Exceptions Register
Related Policies	
Related Procedures	Biosafety Procedure Incident Management Procedure Research Data and Primary Materials Management Procedure
Related forms,	AS2243.3 Safety in Laboratories - Microbiological Safety and

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publications and websites	Containment
Definitions	<p>Terms defined in the Definitions Dictionary</p> <p>Animal</p> <p>Any live non-human vertebrate (that is, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, encompassing domestic Animals, purpose-bred Animals, livestock, wildlife) and cephalopods.</p> <p>Research</p> <p>Research is the creation of new knowledge and/or the use of existing knowledge in a new and creative way to generate new concepts, methodologies, inventions and understandings. This could include the synthesis and analysis of previous research to the extent that it is new and creative.</p> <p>University</p> <p>The term 'University' or 'UniSQ' means the University of Southern Queensland.</p> <p>Definitions that relate to this schedule only</p>
Keywords	Biologicals, RG1, RG2, toxins, SSBA, RG1, RG2, biosafety
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