STANFORD UNIVERSITY

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

TO: Personal Care Physician
FROM: Lawrence Gibbs, Associate Vice Provost for Environmental Health and Safety
SUBJECT: Medical Clearance Requirement for Minors Working with Animals

Minors, defined as persons under 18 years of age, who participate in Stanford University sponsored activities involving potential exposure to animals, unfixed animal tissues, or body fluids are required to be medically cleared before beginning work. This typically involves a pre-placement medical evaluation, obtained from a personal care physician (PCP), including assessment of individual risk factors (e.g., immunosuppression, allergies, asthma) which would increase the risk from work with animals.

Please Note: Minors are not permitted to work with non-human primates, hoofed mammals (e.g., swine, goats, sheep, cows), wild rodents, certain field studies, or on protocols designated as BSL-3 or above.

Allergy to Laboratory Animals

Allergy to laboratory animals is one of the primary occupational health concerns related to work with animals. Aggravation of underlying asthma is also a serious concern. These medical conditions occur most frequently from work with rodents or rabbits, though it is possible to develop allergic reactions to many animals. For more information, see *Animal Allergies: An Occupational Concern – Frequently Asked Questions* (at http://www.stanford.edu/dept/EHS/prod/asds/animal_allergies_FAQ.pdf).

Medical Clearance Documentation

The minor must submit a Medical Clearance Form signed by the PCP indicating that the minor is medically cleared to work with animals. ***This form is to be kept on file by the Principal Investigator or the department sponsoring the student's activities***. If the PCP proposes restrictions for a minor to work with animals despite having a medical condition (e.g., immunosuppression, allergies, asthma) that would increase the risk from work with animals, the case must be reviewed by the Stanford University Occupational Health Center (SUOHC) before the minor can be medically cleared. For questions, the PCP may contact the SUOHC at 650-725-5308.

Medical Clearance Form ***(To be completed by minor's personal care physician)***

Patient's Name: _____ Patient's Birthdate: _____

- ☐ My patient does NOT have any medical conditions that would increase the risk from work with animals and is medically cleared for work with animals.
- ☐ My patient HAS a medical condition that would increase the risk from work with animals, and is NOT medically cleared for work with animals.
- ☐ My patient HAS a medical condition that would increase the risk from work with animals, but is able to work with animals under the following restrictions: _____

_____

(***If this last box is checked, FAX a copy of this form to the SUOHC secure FAX line 650-725-9218***.)

_____ _____ _____
Physician's Signature Physician's Name (print) Date

_____ _____
Address Phone

_____ _____ _____
Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature Parent/Legal Guardian's Name (print) Date

_____ _____
Address Phone