

Veterinary & Animal Care Lab Safety Checklist

Lab/Shop/Classroom: _____

Date: _____

Completed By: _____

Supervisor/Instructor: _____

Animal Handling & Restraint:

- Approved handling techniques used
- Restraint equipment available
 - Maintained regularly
 - Maintenance logs available
- Behavioral risk assessment procedures
 - Documented
 - Reviewed before handling
- Aggressive animals clearly identified
- High-risk handling closely supervised

PPE & Hygiene:

- Gloves, gowns, masks available
- Eye & face protection available
 - In use
- Proper footwear enforced
 - Boot covers available
- Laundry procedures followed closely
- PPE donning/doffing procedures posted
 - Enforced

Zoonotic Disease & Biosecurity:

- Biosecurity procedures posted and current
- Vaccination protocols clear
 - Adhered to
- Isolation procedures clear
 - Adhered to
- Hand hygiene enforced
- Exposure controls in place

Facilities & Enclosures:

- Exam tables stable
- Lifting aids available
 - Maintained & documented
- Electrical equipment inspected
 - Logs available for review
- Slip hazards monitored and controlled
- Cleaning chemicals stored safely
 - WHMIS labels present
 - SDS accessible and current

Sharps, Drugs, Anesthetics:

- Controlled drugs are secured
- Sharps containers at point of use
 - Clearly labeled
 - Not overfilled
- Anesthetic gas scavenging operational
- Drug logs maintained
- Spill response procedures available

Ergonomics & Injury Prevention:

- Manual handling training issued
 - Documentation available
- Mechanical assists used where able
- Awkward postures minimized
 - Corrected immediately if observed
- Task rotation encouraged

Risk-Rating Safety Checklist Form

(optional tie-in with spreadsheet tracking)

Scoring Guide:

0 – Compliant

1 – Moderate risk

2 – High Risk [immediate action required]

Section Scoring:

Area	0	1	2	Score
Animal Handling & Restraint				
Zoonotic Disease & Biosecurity				
Sharps, Drugs, Anesthetics				
PPE & Hygiene				
Facilities & Enclosures				
Equipment & Environmental				
Ergonomics & Injury Prevention				
Waste & Environmental Controls				
Training & Supervision				
Incident & Exposure Management				

Risk Summary:

Total Score: _____ /20

Score	Rating	Action
0-3	Low	Maintain controls
4-7	Moderate	Correct within 30 days
8-12	High	Immediate action
13+	Critical	Stop work

Any risk marked as a “2” in the following areas requires *immediate* action:

- Animal restraint failures
- Zoonotic exposure controls
- Anesthetic gas controls
- Sharps management