

# MANAGEMENT OF SUSPECTED EXPOSURE TO MACACINE ALPHAHERPESVIRUS 1 (B VIRUS) PROCEDURE

## SCOPE

This procedure relates to all activities under the management and control of Monash University in Australia and applies to affected workers, students, contractors and visitors.

## PROCEDURE STATEMENT

This procedure sets out the actions that must be taken when a potential exposure to Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1 (B virus) has occurred. Exposure could result from macaque bites, scratches and contact with their bodily fluids. All exposures must be treated seriously as even minor exposure may be fatal.

### 1. Abbreviations

EAP	Employee Assistance Program
GP	General Practitioner
LMO	Local Medical Officer
LRH	Latrobe Regional Hospital
McHV1	Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1 (B virus)
MARP	Monash Animal Research Platform
MMC	Monash Medical Centre
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
OHNC	Occupational Health Nurse Consultant
OHP	Occupational Health Physician
OH&S	Monash Occupational Health & Safety team led by the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager

### 2. Emergency Procedures for Suspected Exposure

#### 2.1 First Aid

The first few minutes are CRITICAL following a potential exposure to Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1 (B virus or McHV1). The following treatment must be carried out immediately following suspected exposure:

##### 2.1.1 Wounds

- Thoroughly wash and gently scrub the wound or affected area with soap, detergent or antiseptic (povidone-iodine or chlorhexidine) for 15 minutes.
- Rinse the wound with running water for an additional 15 minutes.
- Seek medical attention immediately after.

### 2.1.2 Eyes, nose or mouth

- Irrigate eye(s), nose or mouth with running water for 15 minutes.
- Seek medical attention immediately after.

## 2.2 Specialised First Aid Kit

A dedicated first aid kit with specialised macaque module should be available in the immediate vicinity to macaques and their cages and housing. Refer to the Tools Section for the macaque module contents list.

## 2.3 Notification and Reporting

The injured worker must inform their supervisor of an exposure or suspected exposure. The supervisor is responsible for carrying out the following immediate notifications and actions:

- 2.3.1 Report incident to their manager;
- 2.3.2 Report incident to Occupational Health Nurse Consultant (OHNC), who will notify the Occupational Health Physician (OHP) and Health, Safety and Wellbeing (OH&S) Manager;
- 2.3.3 If the OHNCs are not available, notify the Health, Safety and Wellbeing (OH&S) Manager;
- 2.3.4 Report incident to Biosafety Officer and/or Safety Officer;
- 2.3.5 Report the injury using the online Hazard and Incident Reporting System (SARAH); and
- 2.3.6 Notify the Veterinarian on call.

Note: Where there is an elected Health and Safety Representative (HSR) they should also be included in the incident investigation.

## 2.4 Medical Assessment at Infectious Disease Unit

This section is relevant to the injured worker, their supervisor and treating doctors. **The worker should take a copy of this procedure with them to their admission/appointment.**

### CLAYTON:

- 2.4.1 Following the administration of first aid, the injured worker or their supervisor should immediately notify the OHNC, who will notify the OHP.
- 2.4.2 The OHP will subsequently arrange an appointment at the Infectious Diseases Unit at Monash Medical Centre (MMC) for medical assessment, post-exposure prophylaxis and consultation.
- 2.4.3 It is the worker's responsibility to maintain follow-up contact with their treating physician, as advised following initial consultation.

### GIPPSLAND:

- 2.4.4 Following the administration of first aid, the injured worker or their supervisor should immediately notify the OHNC, who will notify the OHP.
- 2.4.5 The OHP will subsequently arrange an appointment at either the Infectious Diseases Unit at MMC or LRH for medical assessment, post-exposure prophylaxis, consultation and counselling.
- 2.4.6 It is the worker's responsibility to maintain follow up contact with their treating physician, as advised following initial consultation.

### OTHER SITES:

- 2.4.7 If an exposure incident occurs at another site (e.g. during transportation of macaques between sites), the worker is to immediately receive or administer first aid and then proceed to the nearest campus and associated hospital, as outlined above.

## 2.5 Procedure for Exposure Occurring After Hours

This section is relevant to the injured worker, their supervisor and treating doctors. **The worker should take a copy of this procedure with them to their admission/appointment.**

### CLAYTON:

- 2.5.1 Where an exposure occurs outside of business hours, the worker should follow the procedures in 2.4 for exposures occurring on Clayton campus.
- 2.5.2 The treating doctor must notify the On-Call Infectious Disease Physician at MMC and an appointment must be arranged within 24 hours of exposure.
- 2.5.3 The worker must notify their supervisor as soon as practicable. The supervisor should notify the ONHC as soon as practicable. The OHNC will immediately notify the OHP. The OHP will follow up with the treating medical team at MMC.

### GIPPSLAND:

- 2.5.4 Where an exposure occurs outside of business hours, the worker should follow the procedures in 2.4 for exposures occurring on Gippsland campus.
- 2.5.5 The treating doctor must notify the On-Call Infectious Disease Physician at MMC and an appointment must be arranged within 24 hours of exposure. A 24-hour service is provided by both MMC and LRH.
- 2.5.6 Where an exposure occurs outside of business hours, the worker should follow the procedures in 2.4 for exposures occurring on Clayton campus.
- 2.5.7 The worker should take a copy of this procedure with them to MMC Emergency Department.
- 2.5.8 The treating doctor must notify the On-Call Infectious Disease Physician at MMC and an appointment must be arranged within 24 hours of exposure.
- 2.5.9 The worker must notify their supervisor as soon as practicable. The supervisor should notify the ONHC as soon as practicable. The OHNC will immediately notify the OHP. The OHP will follow up with the treating medical team at MMC.

### OTHER SITES:

- 2.5.10 If an exposure incident occurs at another site (e.g. during transportation of macaques between sites), the worker is to immediately receive or administer first aid and then proceed to the nearest campus and associated hospital, as outlined above.

## 2.6 Course of Action for MMC Infectious Diseases Medical Team

It is important that a patient potentially exposed to B virus receives assessment from a Senior Infectious Diseases Physician.

The OHP will:

- Liaise with the Infectious Diseases Physician On-Call (Registrar) and/or Senior Infectious Diseases Physician at MMC (T: (03) 9594 6666); and
- Ensure the affected worker is seen for an appointment at the Infectious Diseases Unit Outpatients Clinic within 24 hours of the potential B virus exposure.

## 2.7 Veterinarian On-Call

The macaque is examined for any signs of disease, especially oral ulcers or vesicles on any part of the body, and information provided to the OHP and Infectious Disease Physician.

## 2.8 Post- Exposure Counselling

Counselling should be offered to the affected worker as soon as is reasonably practicable and may be arranged by the injured person, supervisor, OHNC, OHP or their delegate. The University's Employee Assistance Program is available 24 hours/7 days on T: 1300 360 364.

# 3. Medical Alert Card

Supervisors should provide people who work with or in the vicinity of macaques, their cages or housing a Medical Alert card. The worker should carry the card at all times. The card should be shown to medical staff at the treating medical facility following any suspected exposure.

## 4. Review of Documentation

All procedure documents, information sheets and risk management plans associated with work with macaques at Monash University must be reviewed annually by a working group composed of workers from MARP, OH&S and other persons as appropriate.

All documentation (e.g. flow charts, emergency contact details and B virus first aid information) must be reviewed and updated by the supervisor at least annually or immediately following an incident or when a change to the documentation takes place.

## 5. Responsibility for Implementation

A comprehensive list of OHS responsibilities is provided in the [OHS Roles, Responsibilities and Committees Procedure](#). The responsibilities specific to this procedure are summarised below.

**Occupational Health Physician (OHP):** The OHP is responsible for the development of procedures and provision of specialist advice on issues concerning suspected exposure to *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1* (B virus) or any related areas when required.

**Supervisor:** Supervisors are responsible for carrying out a series of notifications and actions immediately after being advised of a suspected exposure to *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1* (B virus). Refer to section 2.3.

**Veterinarian:** The veterinarian is responsible for the care of the macaques, and liaising with the OHP, OHNC and OH&S in regard to clinical observations.

## 6. Tools

The following tools are associated with this procedure and available on the following pages:

- [Checklist for suspected B virus exposure](#)
- [Local emergency contacts for suspected exposure to McHV1 pro forma](#)
- [First aid for suspected exposure to \*Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1\* \(B virus\) flowchart](#)
- [First aid equipment for work with macaques](#)

## 7. Records

Records to be kept by	Records	To be kept for
Occupational Health & Safety (in confidential medical files)	Medical records including test results	100 years

## APPENDIX 1

### Checklist for Suspected B Virus Exposure

- ☐ Administer first aid IMMEDIATELY. It is CRITICAL that this is performed immediately after suspected exposure and uses appropriate first aid supplies and equipment
- ☐ Immediately notify:
  - ☐ Supervisor
  - ☐ Biosafety Officer and/or Safety Officer
  - ☐ MARP Animal Services Manager
  - ☐ OHNC (who will notify OHP and Health, Safety and Wellbeing (OH&S) Manager)
  - ☐ Veterinarian
- ☐ Take copy of procedures to hospital
- ☐ Attend consultation with Infectious Diseases Specialist within 24 hours (contact Monash Medical Centre (MMC) Infectious Diseases unit physician on-call)
- ☐ Submit an incident report via S.A.R.A.H. (First Aider to submit [First Aid Online Report Form](#)) and notify local HSR, where elected
- ☐ Follow medical advice and prescribed treatment
- ☐ Follow up repeat medical appointments and treatment as required

## APPENDIX 2

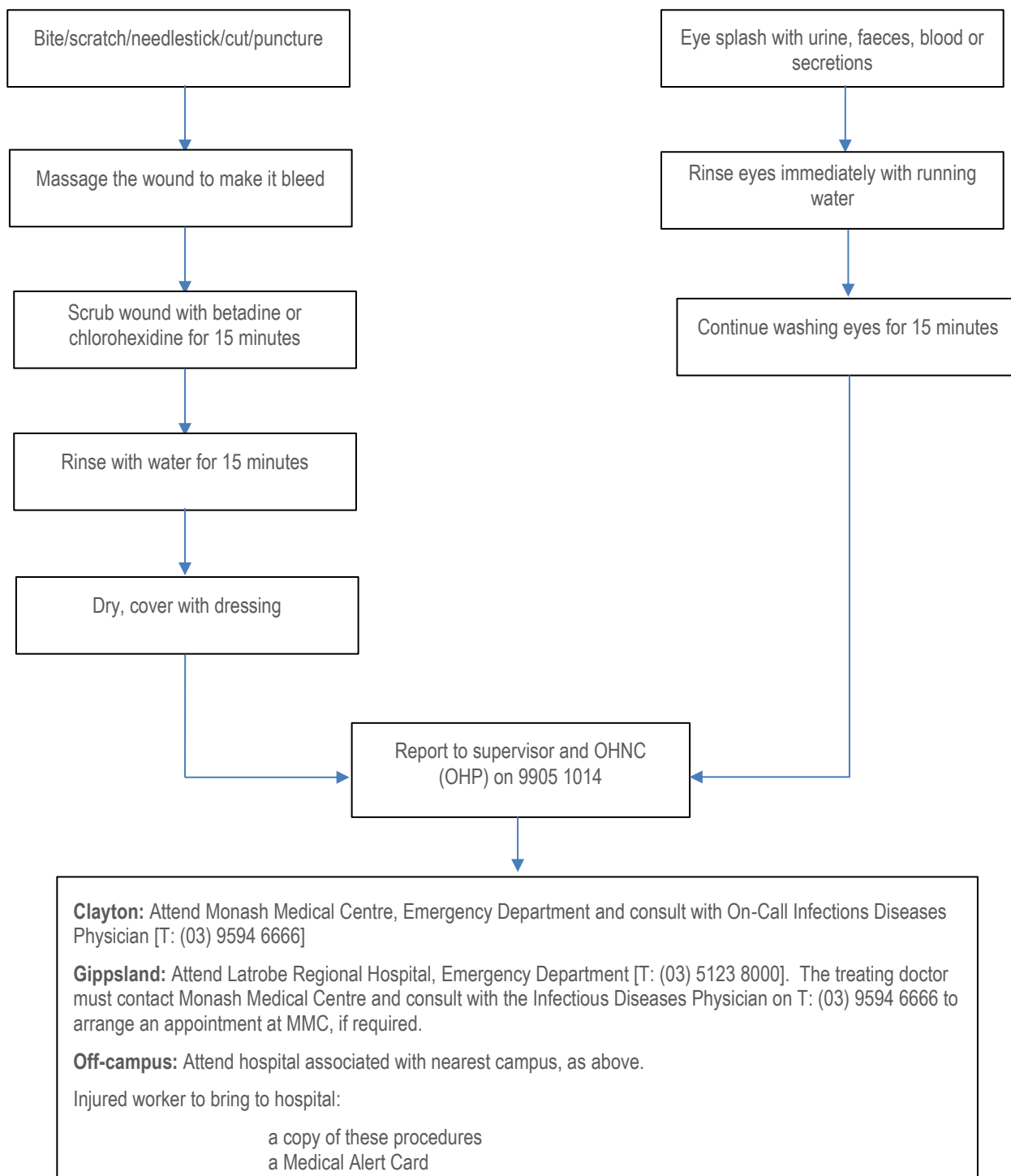
### Local Emergency Contacts for Suspected Exposure to McHV1

<b>Animal Faculty Management</b> Facility Director [INSERT NAME] Facility Manager [INSERT NAME]	T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX
<b>Monash University Veterinarians</b> Dr [INSERT NAME] Dr [INSERT NAME]	T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX
<b>Monash Medical Centre – Infectious Diseases Unit (Clayton)</b> Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Senior Infectious Diseases Physician (Specialist/Consultant) Infectious Diseases Registrar (On-call)	T: XXXX XXXX
<b>Latrobe Regional Hospital – Emergency Department</b> Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Infectious Diseases Registrar (On-call) Local Medical Officer	T: XXXX XXXX
<b>OH&amp;S Monash University</b> Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager [INSERT NAME] Occupational Health Nurse Consultant [INSERT NAME] OHS Consultant Monash Animal Research Platform [INSERT NAME] OH&S Helpdesk	T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX
<b>After Hours Contacts</b> [INSERT NAME] [INSERT NAME]	T: XXXX XXXX T: XXXX XXXX
<b>Monash Employee Assistance Provider (24 hours/7 days)</b>	T: XXXX XXXX
<b>Date Effective: MM/YYYY</b>	<b>Date of Next Review: MM/YYYY</b>



## APPENDIX 3

### First Aid for Suspected Exposure to *Macacine Alphaherpesvirus 1* (B Virus)



Report the incident to Biosafety Officer and/or Safety Officer and complete OH&S Hazard and Incident Report via [S.A.R.A.H.](#)

## APPENDIX 4

### First Aid Equipment for Work with Macaques

Refer to [First Aid Procedure](#) and [First Aid Kit Contents](#)

ITEM DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY
<b>Signage, documentation and guides</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Copy of <a href="#">‘Management of Suspected Exposure to Macacine Alphaherpesvirus 1 (B Virus) Procedure’</a> (bring one copy to medical practitioner in event of exposure)</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laminated copy of ‘First Aid for Suspected Exposure to Macacine Alphaherpesvirus 1 (B Virus)’ (pg 7 of <a href="#">Procedure</a>)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laminated copy of completed ‘Local Emergency Contacts’ template (pg 6 of <a href="#">Procedure</a>)</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Copy of ‘Checklist for Suspected Exposure to <i>Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1</i> (B Virus)’ (pg 5 of <a href="#">Procedure</a>)</li> </ul>	1
<b>Personal protective equipment (PPE)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disposable nitrile gloves</li> </ul>	8 pairs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety goggles or glasses</li> </ul>	2 pairs
<b>Bandages and dressings</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conforming or crepe bandage (e.g. Handyband®, Aerowound®), medium (7.5cm x 1.5m)</li> </ul>	1 roll
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gauze swabs 10cm x 10cm, sterile (3 pack)</li> </ul>	5 packs of 3
<b>Eye wash equipment</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Source of continuous stream of fresh water – for at least 15 minutes of flushing (e.g. safety eye wash station)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eye wash irrigation bottle (e.g. Eyestream®) with ready-to-use eye bath, sterile, 500mL</li> </ul>	2 bottles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eye pads, single-use, sterile</li> </ul>	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timer (for washing eye and bite wound for 15 minutes)</li> </ul>	1
<b>Wound care</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Antiseptic surgical scrub (e.g. povidone-iodine 10% (Betatine™), Chlorhexidine™ 4%), 500mL</li> </ul>	1 bottle
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basin for soaking large wounds</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crepe bandages (e.g. HandyCrepe) 7.5cm x 1.5m or larger</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hypoallergenic tape (e.g. Micropore™), 2.5cm</li> </ul>	1 roll
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nail scrubbing brush, disposable</li> </ul>	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sterile gauze swabs of various sizes for soaking and dressing wounds (5cm x 5cm, 7.5cm x 7.5cm &amp; 10cm x 10cm)</li> </ul>	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Un-medicated sterile low-adherent dressing (e.g. Melolin™, Cutelin™) small, medium &amp; large</li> </ul>	2 each
<b>Waste Management</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biohazard waste disposal plastic bags, 27 litres (500mm x 600mm)</li> </ul>	2



## APPENDIX 5

### Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Where can we get Medical Alert cards to carry to alert medical personnel to the fact that we work with macaques?**

Your supervisor will provide Medical Alert cards to all workers who may come into contact with macaques.

2. **Why should I carry a Medical Alert card indicating that I have been around macaques?**

In the past, individuals who have been infected by B virus, but not treated early enough to prevent fatality, have shown up in emergency rooms disoriented, distressed, and unable to provide useful information to medical personnel. These cards will alert healthcare workers to the fact that you work or have worked with macaques. As a result, they can order tests that can quickly rule out whether your symptoms are due to B virus.

## DEFINITIONS

A comprehensive list of definitions is provided in the [Definitions tool](#). Definitions specific to this procedure are provided below.

Key word	Definition
<b>Occupational Health Physician (OHP)</b>	Occupational Health Physician is a highly trained medical specialist and member of the Occupational Health & Safety team (OH&S). The OHP provides a wide range of services relating to the health of workers and students, including injury prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.
<b>Veterinarian</b>	Veterinarians are tertiary qualified professionals whose specialty is in diagnosing and treating sickness, disease and injury in all types of animals.

## GOVERNANCE

Parent policy	<a href="#">OHS&amp;W Policy</a>
Supporting procedures	<b>Monash University Documents</b> <a href="#">First Aid Procedure</a> <a href="#">Guidelines for the Development of Safe Work Instructions</a> <a href="#">Managing OHS Hazards and Incidents Procedure</a> <a href="#">OHS Records Management Procedure</a> <a href="#">OHS Risk Management Procedure</a> <a href="#">OHS Risk Management Guidelines - Biological</a> <a href="#">OHS Roles, Responsibilities and Committees Procedure</a> <a href="#">Using Biologicals and Animals Procedure</a>
Supporting schedules	N/A
Associated procedures	<b>Australian and International Standards</b> ISO 45001:2018 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems <b>Codes and Other Guidance Documents</b> NHMRC - The Principles and guidelines for the care and use of non-human primates for scientific purposes, 2016
Related Legislation	Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic)
Category	Operational
Approval	Chief Operating Officer & Senior Vice-President 10 October 2022
Endorsement	Monash University OHS Committee 15 September 2022
Procedure owner	Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager
Date effective	11 October 2022
Review date	11 October 2025
Version	5.2
Content enquiries	<a href="mailto:ohshelpline@monash.edu">ohshelpline@monash.edu</a>

## DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Date Approved	Changes made to document
2	August 2012	Procedures for the management of suspected exposure to Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1 (B Virus), v2
3	November 2014	Management of suspected exposure to Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1 (B Virus) Procedure, v3
3.1	July 2015	Updated hyperlinks throughout to new OH&S website
3.2	August 2017	Updated logos in header.
4	December 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All information regarding swabbing the macaque and human have been removed. Treatment is not based on the results of any of these tests and even swabbing can delay worker receiving the appropriate Medical attention.</li> <li>2. Notification to Safety Officer was added.</li> <li>3. MARP manager was replaced with 'manager', as macaques are also handled at non-MARP facilities, where relevant managements needs to be notified.</li> </ol>
5	December 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Updated virus taxonomy.</li> <li>2. Procedure title changed.</li> <li>3. Changed references to 'worker/student' to 'worker'.</li> <li>4. Provided separate instructions for exposure management process at Clayton and Gippsland campuses.</li> <li>5. Provided additional instructions for exposure occurring outside of Monash campuses.</li> <li>6. Updated information regarding role of Veterinarian.</li> </ol>
5.1	July 2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Updated certification logo in footer to ISO 45001</li> <li>2. Updated the Standard to ISO 45001 under "Associated procedures" in the Governance table</li> <li>3. Updated OHS Policy under 'Parent Policy' to OHS&amp;W Policy</li> </ol>
5.2	October 2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Updated first aid instructions in line with CDC recommendations.</li> <li>2. Updated First Aid Equipment for Work with Macaques.</li> </ol>