

BIOHAZARDOUS AGENT REFERENCE DOCUMENT

House Dust Mite extract (HDM)

The Biohazardous Agent Reference Document (BARD) is a general guidance resource that reviews and summarizes the nature of a pathogen or biotoxin, and offers safety requirements for work with the agent in the laboratory. The BARD may replace the formal SOPs used in conjunction with some IBC registrations.

The BARD is provided as an additional guidance tool, and is not a substitute for a risk assessment, biosafety training, lab-specific training, or a formal [IBC master protocol registration](#). This document should be readily available in the laboratory, and it is the responsibility of the Laboratory Supervisor or Principal Investigator to ensure that all personnel have read, understood, and signed the document. The BARD is for informational purposes only, and is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Please consult a health care provider for any medical questions or concerns.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Review the information contained in this document.**
2. **Add any necessary information that is specific to your work in the laboratory (such as strain-specific information). Please be sure that the track changes function is turned on to indicate any changes that you make.**
3. **Instruct all personnel to review the BARD and sign the last page, indicating that they have read and understood the information.**
4. **Submit the BARD along with your IBC master protocol registration, amendment, or continuing review.**

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CHARACTERISTICS	
Morphology	Allergen derived from the body segments and/or fecal pellets of house dust mites
Characteristics	One of the major triggers for people with allergies or asthma

HEALTH HAZARDS	
Host Range	Humans, other mammalian species
Modes of Transmission	Inhalation, injection, dermal exposure, mucous membrane contact
Signs and Symptoms	Sneezing, runny nose, itchy red or watery eyes, itchy nose mouth or throat, nasal congestion, sinus irritation, itchy skin, postnasal drip (a flow of mucus from behind your nose into your throat), or cough. Asthma triggered by a dust mite allergy may also cause: Difficulty breathing, chest tightness or pain, a whistling or wheezing sound when breathing out, trouble sleeping caused by shortness of breath, coughing or wheezing
Reactive Dose	unknown
Incubation Period	n/a

MEDICAL PRECAUTIONS / TREATMENT	
Prophylaxis	None available
Vaccines	None available
Treatment	None available, supportive treatment only, move to clean air
Surveillance	Monitor for symptoms
UVM IBC Requirements	Report any exposures or signs and symptoms to your supervisor.
Additional Medical Precautions	Individuals with allergies to dust mites or asthma triggered by dust mite allergies are at risk for

LABORATORY HAZARDS	
Laboratory Exposures	No data.
Sources	House dust mites

CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS	
BSL - 1	
BSL - 2	
ABSL - 1	Administration of the agent to an animal model, may be housed at ABSL-1 post-exposure
ABSL - 2	
Aerosol generating activities	Centrifugation, homogenizing, vortexing or stirring, pipetting, pouring liquids, filling or expelling syringes
Primary containment device	Use a biosafety cabinet for any procedures that have the potential to generate aerosols

EXPOSURE PROCEDURES	
Mucous membranes	Flush eyes, mouth or nose for 15 minutes at eyewash station, seek medical attention.
Other exposures	Wash area with soap and water for 15 minutes, seek medical attention
Medical Follow-Up	Contact Champlain Medical for assistance at (802) 448-9370 . Bring this document with you if seeking medical care.
Reporting	Report all exposures or near misses to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your immediate Supervisor 2. The UVM Biosafety Officer at (802) 777-9471 and Risk Management at 6-3242 3. Risk Management and Safety; https://www.uvm.edu/riskmanagement/incident-claim-reporting-procedures

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	
Minimum PPE Requirements	Nitrile gloves, lab coat, appropriate eye/face protection. Wash hands after removing gloves.
Additional Precautions (Risk assessment dependent)	

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VIABILITY	
Inactivation	Steam autoclaving
Stability in Environment	Stable at room temperature and normal pressures

SPILL CLEAN UP PROCEDURES	
Small Spill	Notify others working in the lab. Allow aerosols to settle. Don appropriate PPE. Cover area of the spill with paper towels and apply approved disinfectant, working from the perimeter towards the center. Allow 30 minutes of contact time before clean up and disposal. Dispose in double biowaste bags and biobox.
Large Spill	<p>Inside of a lab: Call UVM Service Operations at 656-2560 and press option 1 to speak to a dispatcher. Ask them to page Risk Management and Safety.</p> <p>Outside of a lab: Pull the nearest fire alarm and evacuate the building. Wait out front of the building for emergency responders to arrive.</p>

REFERENCES	
American Lung Association	https://www.lung.org/clean-air/at-home/indoor-air-pollutants/dust-mites
Mayo Clinic	https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/dust-mites/symptoms-causes/syc-20352173
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America	https://www.aafa.org/dust-mite-allergy/

STUDENT / EMPLOYEE NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE