

Environmental Health and Safety

RAPID Meeting

September 2016



Weill Cornell Medicine

Unified Laboratory Safety Registration and Inspection Program



Weill Cornell Medicine

Historical Research Safety



EHS Research Safety Checklist

- **Defined / limited focus** on chemical safety, FDNY / fire safety, general laboratory safety, hazardous materials shipment and emergency preparedness
- Required **annual completion** and submission by Principal Investigator (PI)



Institutional Biosafety Committee

- **Defined / limited focus** on biological safety involving rDNA and Risk Group 2-4 biological agents
- IBC Registration required for **each separate pre-award grant submission/approval**.
- Each registration had a **separate compliance due date**
- Compliance issues identified as “new” research is conducted prior to grant submission/IBC Registration.



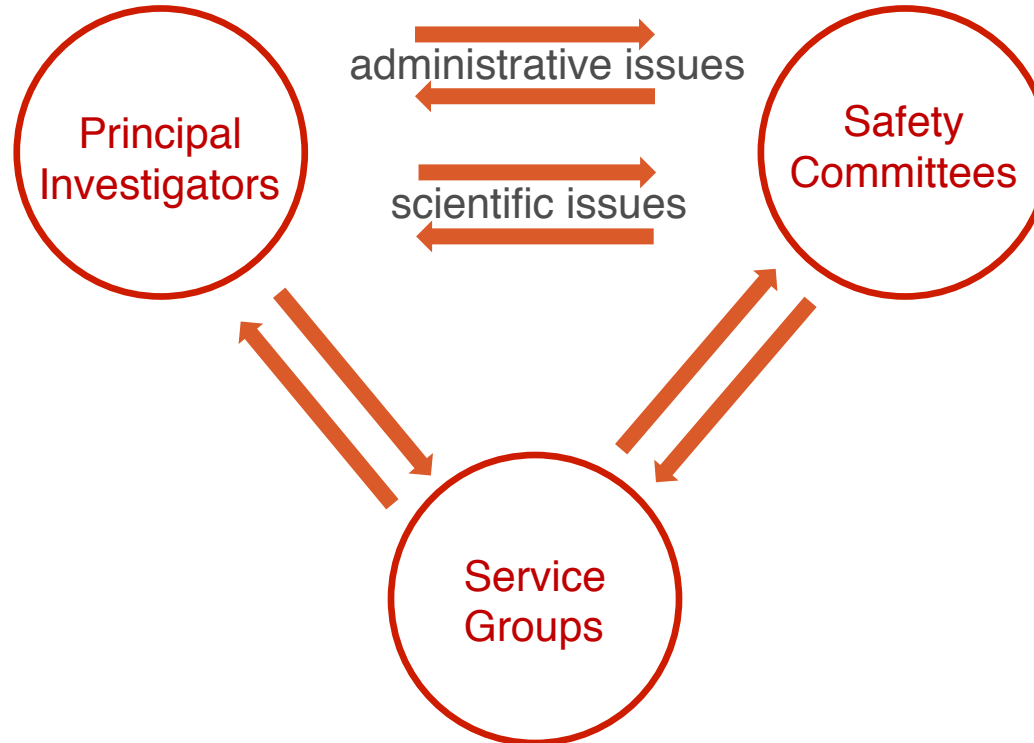
Radiation Safety Committee

- **Defined / limited focus** on non-human use of radioactive materials
- Non-human use radiation usage requires **initial registration** and authorization. New isotope usage requires amendment
- **Separate annual confirmation** of continued authorized user status

2014 Research Safety Improvement Areas



1. Reduce “paperwork shuffle”



2. Streamlined research safety implementation by geographical zones / scientific “neighborhoods”

2015 Unified Laboratory Safety Registration



Unified Laboratory Safety Registration

(EHS Research Safety Checklist / IBC Registration / Radiation Safety)

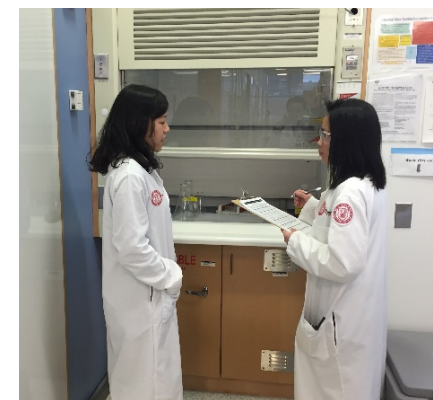
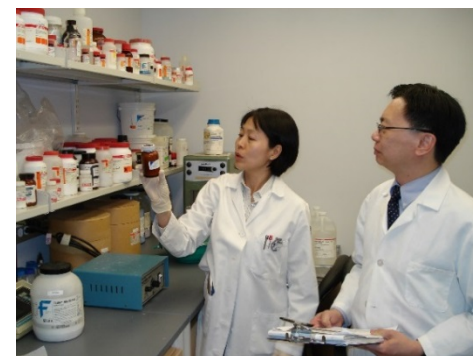
- **Combines chemical, biological, and radiological safety** into one comprehensive “*Laboratory Safety Registration*” submittal.
- EHS meets with Principal Investigator (and/or laboratory safety coordinator) to review current and proposed research and takes the lead to prepare documentation.
- EHS submits documentation to Safety Committees with Principal Investigator’s authorization. Safety Committees perform full review. The **pre-review greatly reduces or eliminates administrative and scientific issues** identified by Safety Committees.
- Laboratory Safety Registration will continue to be **submitted on a bi-annual basis**.
- **Single comprehensive review** and annual inspection of the laboratory for all PIs associated with the laboratory suite to minimize redundant inspections of same physical spaces.

2016: Unified Safety Review and Inspection



Unified Laboratory Safety Review and Inspection (EHS Research Safety Checklist / IBC Registration / Radiation Safety)

- **Combines chemical, biological, and radiological safety** annual reviews and inspections
- **Annual Review:**
 - High hazard chemical, biological and radiological hazards used in the laboratory
 - Safe work practices and waste management
 - Safety equipment (chemical hoods, biosafety cabinets, radiation survey meters, oxygen monitors)
 - Safety training
- **When:** align same month Registrations are completed
- **Follow-up:** EHS will work with LSCs to address issues



Next Step: Process Improvement Review



Integrated Laboratory Safety Registration (EHS Research Safety Checklist / IBC Registration / Radiation Safety)

- Institutional Biosafety Committee and Radiation Safety Committee process improvement review.
- Customer-centric review to help ensure we continue to deliver high quality of service.
- Evaluate points of integration with other Departments and Committees (e.g., IRB, IACUC).
- Process review main outcomes:
 - Current state process map
 - Feedback and root cause analysis
 - Recommendations for improvement
 - Future-state guidelines for potential Weill Research Gateway integration

Thank you for attending



Questions?

Participate in Process Review?

James Crandall

jac2021@med.cornell.edu

646-962-8101