

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"> Your immediate Supervisor The UVM Biosafety Officer at (802) 777-9471 and Risk Management at 6-3242 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 |
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| 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 |
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| Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America | https://www.aafa.org/dust-mite-allergy/ |

| STUDENT / EMPLOYEE NAME | SIGNATURE | DATE |
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