TTUHSC Health Surveillance Program

Laboratory Animal Resource Centers

I. GUIDELINES

Health surveillance guidelines are designed to protect both people and the laboratory animals, and are based on the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (NRC 1996); Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 5th Edition (2008), and other relevant published information.

II. COVERED INDIVIDUALS

Covered Individuals include those who work in the Laboratory Animal Resource Centers (LARC) on any campus who have contact with laboratory animals or animal tissues, fluids or wastes or animal living quarters on a regular basis. (See Employee Health Program for Personnel with Laboratory Animal Contact: LARC Policy No. POLARCOO4-02 available at the LARC office or at the LARC website.)

III. COSTS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COVERED INDIVIDUALS

Screenings and Immunizations: Costs for screenings and immunizations will be borne by the department that principal investigator originates.

Exposure Investigation and Management: Costs for exposure management will be borne by the department that the principal investigator originates.

Annual FLU vaccine: Cost will be covered by the Office of Institutional Health.

IV. DESIGNATED HEALTH SURVEILLANCE UNIT RESPONSIBILITY

a) History and Evaluation

All Covered Individuals must read the Employee Health Program for Personnel with Laboratory Animal Contact Handbook. “A Risk Assessment For Animal Contact: Health Questionnaire” shall be completed by Level 1 participants as stipulated on the “Request for Laboratory Animal Resources Center Access Form” (FMLARC1016) and submitted to the Health Surveillance Unit with responsibility for LARC to be reviewed. A medical evaluation/consultation may be required.

b) Recommended Screening and Immunization

Recommended screening and immunizations are specified in LARC Policy POLARCO04-02, Risk Assessment for Animal Contact (FMLAR1016), available from the LARC Program Office at 806-743-2565 or the LARC website.