

### Health Surveillance Guidance

**It is the responsibility of the Line Manager/PI/PhD supervisor to identify their staff and students that require Health Surveillance.**

The Health Surveillance Risk Assessment form can be used to help carry out this risk assessment to identify whether health surveillance is needed. Further information and this form can be found on the [Safety and Environmental Protection Services Health Surveillance website](#).

**People working with animals, have a PIL and have access to the BSU are highly likely to require respiratory Health surveillance.** See table below for list of respiratory sensitisers and requirements for surveillance.

Follow the process outlined below to arrange Health Surveillance for your group members.

If the assessment concludes that Health Surveillance is required, the **Line Manager/PI/PhD supervisor must** ensure that the relevant member(s) of staff and students are identified to the [Occupational Health Unit](#) using the [Health Surveillance Request Form](#).

A completed [SEPS Health Surveillance Risk Assessment form](#) covering the work **MUST** accompany ALL referrals to the OHU. Failure to submit both completed forms will result in your request not being processed by the OHU.

Please send both completed forms to [ohu@admin.gla.ac.uk](mailto:ohu@admin.gla.ac.uk)  
Occupational Health will arrange to carry out examinations in appropriate cases.





The Line Manager/PI/PhD Supervisor should ensure their groups members undertake **an annual review** as part of their responsibilities.

Staff Attendance for Health Surveillance will be recorded within the individual's CoreHR record.

**Undertaking Health Surveillance is an extremely important part of H&S, and for all BSU users. If there are persistent users who have failed to attend Health Surveillance, access to BSU will be reviewed and potentially withdrawn.**

*Remember to consider individuals' own health when carrying out risk assessments of these and other tasks. For some people, these areas might be more hazardous and require extra monitoring or extra measures put in place.*

**Hazardous Substances which may require Health Surveillance are (but not limited to):**

Substance	Comment
Respiratory Sensitisers  Serious health hazard  Common phrase: <b>H334 May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled</b>	Respiratory Sensitisers may require health surveillance as it is often impossible to ensure control at a level where there is no risk of sensitisation.
Small laboratory Animals  Serious health hazard	Surveillance likely to be necessary for any recurring work with live animals or handling of waste unless the process is fully contained. Work with only extracted tissue poses no significant risk of sensitisation and does not require surveillance.  <b>If you are paying for your research group members to have a PIL it is likely the level of their work is such that surveillance is required. YOU Should arrange this for them.</b>
Sensitising small molecules	Reactive small molecules such as isocyanates, glutaraldehyde, acid anhydrides are associated with a high level of sensitisation.
Genetically modified organisms	Health surveillance may be required where the genetic modification causes an increase in potential pathogenicity.
Chemicals	
Chronic poisons such as cytotoxic agents  Acute toxicity (	Cytotoxic anti-cancer drugs, symptom surveillance required only for those who directly handle these drugs. If in a class 2 safety cabinet and gloves are used no surveillance required.
Carcinogens and mutagens	A health record only is required.
Potent acute toxins  Acute toxicity (	Where exposure may occur which could cause recognisable symptoms, but which may not result in incapacitating illness, periodic surveillance to detect such exposures may be necessary.

Sensitisers are substances which can cause sensitisation in the lungs (respiratory sensitisers) and/or skin (skin sensitisers) after exposure to them. Once sensitised, individuals can have severe reactions to further exposure, even in small amounts. In the most extreme cases, individuals may develop **asthma** and/or dermatitis respectively.

[List of substances that can cause occupational asthma - HSE](#)

## The Health Surveillance Process

