

Basic Assumptions and Guidelines

Aseptic techniques are mandatory.
All organisms are presumed pathogenic.

1. No food or drink (including bottled water) on workbenches and shelves.
2. No open toed shoes in lab and long hair is to be tied back.
3. Lab coats “on” at the beginning of each exercise and “off” at the VERY end of lab – do not remain in lab without your lab coat on. Meet friends outside of the lab.
4. Disinfect your workbench surface with Sanisol before and after each exercise involving organisms.
5. Check your microscope for cleanliness before and after use; and place appropriately in its correct space in the cabinet after use.
6. Do not leave your inoculating loop or needle in the furnace unattended.
7. All aseptic transfers require tops of culture tubes to be heated before and after each transfer.
8. Replace or close caps on reagent and stain bottles after use.
9. Do not allow staining trays to become full – empty periodically. Do not use culture dishes containing Sanisol for stain rinse collection.
10. Rinse staining trays and empty wash bottles of any water before placing in drawers.
11. Disinfect all spills first, WAIT for disinfection to take effect, then wipe up the area. Dispose of paper towels in the biohazard bucket.
12. Use common sense; but if doubt exists – ask your instructor.

Wash your hands before you leave!