



## Safety and Risk Management

### Safety Committees

#### **University Safety Committee**

This committee is composed of university faculty and staff who have expertise in safety. The committee is responsible for developing policies and guidelines relating to safety for the entire institution.

#### **Institutional Review Boards (Committee on the Conduct of Human Research)**

This committee is composed of a number of panels that include faculty members and non-VCU affiliated individuals. It is responsible for protecting the safety and rights of persons involved as subjects in research at the university.

#### **Institutional Biosafety Committee**

VCU's IBC regularly meets to review proposed research or work to be conducted at or on behalf of the University that involves recombinant/synthetic DNA (rDNA). In addition to rDNA research, the IBC reviews and approves MUAs for research that is in compliance with NIH Guidelines, and that can safely be performed at VCU involving Select Agents; certain Human, Plant, and Animal Pathogens and Biological Toxins; Clinical trials involving any administration of rDNA and/or pathogens to human subjects; or other research projects conducted at or on behalf of the University which are deemed, by the Biosafety Office, to require IBC oversight.

#### **Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee**

This committee is responsible for review of the institution's program for humane care and use of animals; inspection of all animal facilities including animal study areas; submission of reports of its evaluations to the Institutional Officer; review, and if warranted, investigation of concerns involving the care and use of animals at the institution resulting from public complaints received and from reports of noncompliance received from laboratory research facility personnel; and review of proposed uses of animals in research, testing or education (i.e., protocols).

#### **Radiation Safety/Radioactive Drug Research Committee**

This committee, mandated by the VCU/MCVH Nuclear Regulatory Commission license, is charged with overseeing the use of licensed material and radiation-producing devices by identifying radiation safety problems; initiating, recommending, or providing corrective actions; and verifying the implementation of corrective actions. The RSC is composed of faculty and staff from both VCU and the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals and meets once each calendar quarter.