

Requirements for Research Classified as BL1-N in *The NIH Guidelines Appendix M*

The BL-N classification refers to research involving animals that are not housed in standard animal containment housing (i.e. cages) and are introduced to genetically modified agents and/or are themselves genetically modified. Some animals that typically fall into this classification are, but not limited to, cows, sheep, horses and poultry.

Research classified as BL1-N must adhere to the listed requirements. Failure to follow these requirements would result in an incident report submitted to the Virginia Tech IBC and NIH Office of Science Policy.

BL1-N Requirements:

- Follow all BSL-1/ABSL-1 facility and containment requirements and facility-specific manuals.
- IBC approval must be obtained prior to the start of the experimental procedures and/or procurement of genetically modified non-rodent animals.
- All carcasses must be disposed of as RMW or RMW for incineration (i.e., animals treated with chemicals); seek guidance from EHS regarding your specific disposal requirements.
 - Animals in this classification may **NOT** be disposed of through rendering, landfill and/or other methods that may result in use of the carcass or associated parts being used as a human and/or animal food source.
- A **permanent** record must be maintained of the experimental use and disposal of each animal or group of animals.
 - At the end of the experiment, if you wish to have the IBC maintain the permanent record of the procedures use and disposal, please contact the IBC Program Director (ibc@vt.edu).
- The animals shall be confined to securely fenced areas or be in enclosed structures (animal rooms) to minimize the possibility of theft or unintentional release.
- The containment area where the animals are housed must be locked, and access must be restricted/limited.
- The containment area must be patrolled/monitored at frequent intervals.
- The containment area shall be in accordance with state and Federal laws and IACUC requirements.

BL1-N requirements specific to genetically modified/engineered/altered animals:

- All genetically engineered/modified/altered neonates shall be permanently marked within 72 hours after birth if their size permits. If their size does not permit marking, their containers should be marked. In addition, transgenic animals should contain distinct and biochemically assayable DNA sequences that allow identification of transgenic animals from among non-transgenic animals.
- A double barrier shall be provided to separate male and female animals unless reproductive studies are part of the experiment or other measures are taken to avoid reproductive transmission. Reproductive incapacitation may be used.