

AAALAC POSITION STATEMENTS

B Virus

(herpes B, monkey B virus, herpesvirus simiae, and herpesvirus B), *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1* (Herpes B virus)

In addition to using its AAALAC's Three Primary Standards, AAALAC International uses the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) B Virus (herpes B, monkey B virus, herpesvirus simiae, and herpesvirus B)*, last reviewed January 30, 2019; the "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories," 6th Edition (DHHS 2020); the "Occupational Health and Safety in the Care and Use of Research Animals," NRC 1997; and the "Recommendations for Prevention of and Therapy for Exposure to B Virus (*Cercopithecine Herpesvirus 1*)," Cohen, et al. (2002), *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 35:1191-1203) as resources for assessing the appropriateness of measures to protect personnel and prevent transmission of B Virus, *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1*.

As recommended in the designated references above, macaques should be presumed to be harboring *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1* and handled accordingly. Each AAALAC International accredited institution housing macaques, or utilizing tissues or body fluids collected from macaques, must have a protection and prevention program for *Macacine alphaherpesvirus 1* as a part of its occupational health and safety program.

The basic elements of the program include standard operating procedures and training for handling macaques and their tissues and dealing with potential exposures; risk assessment and education of all personnel having potential contact with macaques; the presence of supplies for immediate and appropriate patient first aid and animal specimen collection; maintenance of bite, scratch, exposure and incident log; the required use of appropriate protective equipment, including that necessary for hand and arm as well as for eye and mucous membrane protection; and access to occupational health and safety staff and medical care staff knowledgeable of both exposure and transmission risks and disease signs and symptoms.

*<https://www.cdc.gov/herpesvirus/firstaid-treatment.html>