



Centre for Heart Lung Innovation Safety Committee	Policy No: 1	Approval Date: Issued: February 5, 2007 (new) Last Revision: February 28, 2018
	Responsible: Director and Safety Committee	
Title: Minimum Age for Laboratory Access		
Background & Purposes: The UBC Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI) aims to provide a safe, healthy and secure environment in which to carry on all the activities. All possible preventive measures are taken to eliminate accidental injuries, occupational diseases and risks to personal security. Most of the HLI laboratories are classified as Biosafety Level 2 (BSL2). Compliance with the Workers Compensation Act, WHMIS and related legislation is the minimum standard acceptable. This policy limits the access of persons under the age of 16 years to the laboratory working areas.		

I. General

Each laboratory supervisor is responsible for the safety of visitors to his or her laboratory or work area, including determining that applicable training and immunization requirements have been met and that appropriate personal protective equipment is used in areas, where necessary. If applicable, proof of proper medical clearance must be submitted to the laboratory supervisor prior to a work term or visit.

II. Procedure

Children

The laboratory workplace is generally not designed for children. However, various exceptions for bringing children to the Centre are allowed or encouraged, such as “Bring Your Son or Daughter to Work Day” and educational programs and tours.

For safety reasons, children (persons under 16 years of age) are not permitted to enter any laboratory area, animal holding area, engineering area, construction area, warehouse, or any other high risk restricted area.

Educational programs and tours

Adults and children may participate in prearranged, pre-approved educational programs and tours of the Centre; however, children must be escorted by parents, chaperones, or other adult sponsors. Groups must be accompanied by a HLI employee for any part of the program or tour that occurs outside of designated escort free areas.



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Children may be allowed to visit the HLI offices not associated with high risk restricted areas in special situations, such as an employee who experiences a problem with child care and when the child is not ill. In such cases, the employee who is the child's parent or guardian must notify his or her immediate supervisor (or host) of the child's presence and expected time in the workplace. Supervisors must concur with the amount of time requested for a child to be present; however, in no case may a child be present for a full work day. As necessary, leave should be granted to the employee so as to attend to the child at home rather than at the workplace. Children under 16 years of age must be under direct supervision of the parent or guardian at all times.

III. References

1. *Laboratory Biosafety Manual*, 2nd Ed., World Health Organization, Geneva 2003, pp.10.
2. *Policy for visitors in the workplace at CDC*, updated Feb 26, 2006.