

## *RISK GROUPS vs. BIOSAFETY LEVELS*

<b>Risk Group 1</b> (no or very low individual and community risk)	A microorganism that is unlikely to cause human or animal disease.
<b>Risk Group 2</b> (moderate individual risk, low community risk)	A pathogen that can cause human or animal disease but is unlikely to be a serious hazard to laboratory workers, the community, livestock, or the environment. Laboratory exposures may cause serious infection, but effective treatment and preventive measures are available and the risk of spread of infection is limited.
<b>Risk Group 3</b> (high individual risk, low community risk)	A pathogen that usually causes serious human or animal disease but does not ordinarily spread from one infected individual to another. Effective treatment and preventive measures are available.
<b>Risk Group 4</b> (high individual and community risk)	A pathogen that usually causes serious human or animal disease and that can be readily transmitted from one individual to another, directly or indirectly. Effective treatment and preventive measures are not usually available.
<b>Biosafety Level 1</b>	Work involving well-characterized agents not known to cause disease in healthy adult humans, and of minimal potential hazard to laboratory personnel and the environment.
<b>Biosafety Level 2</b>	Similar to Level 1 and is suitable for work involving agents of moderate potential hazard to personnel

	and the environment.
<b>Biosafety Level 3</b>	Applicable to clinical, diagnostic, teaching, research, or production facilities in which work is done with indigenous or exotic agents which may cause serious or potentially lethal disease as a result of exposure by the inhalation route.
<b>Biosafety Level 4</b>	Required for work with dangerous and exotic agents which pose a high individual risk of aerosol-transmitted laboratory infections and life-threatening disease.