



THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE & VETERINARY MEDICINE  
EDINBURGH BIOQUARTER CAMPUS  
**HEALTH & SAFETY BULLETIN #296**  
12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023

CM&VM (Edinburgh bioQuarter Campus) H&S web site: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/medicine-vet-medicine/staff-and-current-students/cmvm-health-and-safety/edinburgh-bioquarter>

University of Edinburgh H&S web site: <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety>

## Health and Safety Briefing



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- **Induction Training**
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- **And Finally**

**Health & Safety Training:** Those wishing to participate in any one or more of the H&S training courses listed below (All of which continue to be delivered as on-line training using the medium of *MS Teams*) **MUST** provide **ALL** of the following information in the body of an email to [Lindsay.Murray@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Lindsay.Murray@ed.ac.uk):

- **Your Name** (as you wish it to appear on a hard-copy certificate of attendance, which will be issued sometime after the event);
- **Which Department/Centre/Building** you usually work within (So that your certificate can be posted out to you. So don't just write "IRR" – It's a big building, and I need to know which Research Centre you are based within, otherwise there's precious little chance of a certificate ever reaching you);
- **Which course(s)** you wish to attend (Be specific); and
- **An email address** that can be cut and pasted into a spreadsheet that will be used to generate an invitation containing a link which participants should use to join each event, and to which any supporting paperwork will also be sent.

**Please Note: Failure to send ALL of the necessary information, AND IN THE ABOVE FORMAT, is likely to result in delays before final details can be confirmed.**

Bookings for each course will close a few days before the event, in order to manage the invitation process, so it is recommended that you make an early bid to participate in training (I hesitate to suggest that this should be done also to avoid disappointment).

Hard-copy certificates of completion may, therefore, take some time to reach you, but they *WILL* be sent out in due course.

All courses are repeated regularly throughout the year; so, if you cannot attend one of those listed below, there will be further opportunities, and these will be advertised through the medium of future Safety Bulletins.

**New Dates for Health & Safety Induction Training: Please note that there will be an in-person combined Induction and Late & Lone Working session on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 in the Wellcome Auditorium, QMRI from 10:00-12:00, with a comfort break between the two parts. There will be no need to book for those sessions – Just pitch up and sign-in. certificates will be issued as usual to those who attend.**

Otherwise, the next on-line health and safety-related induction training events will be offered at the following time:

- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 at 14:00 (for one hour).

This course, which is MANDATORY for all new and recently starting workers, will be suitable for people working in laboratories, offices and support services environments, and includes aspects of fire safety awareness.

Certificates of attendance will be issued for personal and departmental training records.

To register, see above (Health & Safety Training).

**Late & Lone Working Training: Please note that there will be an in-person combined Induction and Late & Lone Working session on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 in the Wellcome Auditorium, QMRI from 10:00-12:00, with a comfort break between the two parts. There will be no need to book for those sessions – Just pitch up and sign-in. certificates will be issued as usual to those who attend.**

Otherwise, the next on-line late and lone-working safety training event will be offered at the following time:

- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2023 at 14:00 (for one hour).

Please note that attendance on this training course is MANDATORY for all those proposing to work outside hours of expected buildings occupancy (*i.e.* any time after 18:00 or before 07:00 Monday to Friday, or anytime at all during a weekend or University holiday) and anyone who is expected to work apart from others for periods of time.

Certificates of attendance will be issued for personal and departmental training records.

To register, see above (Health & Safety Training).

**New Dates for Liquid Nitrogen:** The next round of training will be delivered at the following times:

*Liquid Nitrogen Safety (Part 1):*

- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 at 10:00 (for approximately two and a half hours, to include a short comfort break).

*Compressed and Laboratory Gases Safety:*

- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 at 10:00 (for approximately two and a half hours, to include a short comfort break).

Certificates of attendance will be issued for your personal and departmental training records.

Please note that attendance on these training courses is MANDATORY for anyone proposing to (1) work in a liquid nitrogen plant room or handling cryogenic liquids, and/or (2) connect regulators to gas supplies or moving and handling compressed gas cylinders, *etc.*

To register, see above (Health & Safety Training).

**H&S Training for Principal Investigator and Supervisors:** It is possible to undertake this training programme on-line by selecting the appropriate link within <https://www.ed.ac.uk/health->

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[safety/training/portfolio/role-specific](#). Alternatively, many people in the past have expressed a preference for more personalised training at which time questions can be asked, and answers hopefully provided. This latter option (a one hour-long event) may be requested at a time of your greatest convenience by emailing [Lindsay.Murray@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Lindsay.Murray@ed.ac.uk)

**Safety Manual:** Some changes have been made to two Sections of the Safety Manual. Section 5 (Fire Safety) has been amended in respect of the introduction of IRR(S) to the Campus, and arrangements to investigate “single knock” fire signals; and Section 14 (Special Safety Precautions) has been amended to add a model spill management plan as a new Annex to that Section (The latter is based on a model kindly contributed by colleagues in Vet. School). These can be reviewed within <https://www.ed.ac.uk/medicine-vet-medicine/staff-and-current-students/cmvm-health-and-safety/edinburgh-bioquarter/manual>

**Accident and Incident Reporting** In addition to the link at <https://www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety/accident-reporting>, access to the Accident and Incident Reporting system can be achieved using the following QR code, which you might wish to save on your mobile device(s):



**Science of Santa:** This has (unintentionally, on my part) become something of an annual tradition in these parts, and is meant merely for fun if anyone is sufficiently interested (Some have participated every year since this started – You know who you are). In a fairly brief session, delivered using the medium of *MS Teams* for those who express an interest, we will consider just how Santa Claus manages to deliver a present to good boys and girls throughout the whole world in one single night. Subject matters include a brief historical review, some regional variations, the physics and engineering of sleigh operations, food and beverage consumption for Santa and his reindeer, and some other stuff.

- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 at 14:00 (for one hour).

To register, use the same procedure set out in Health & Safety Training in the first section of this Bulletin.

**And Finally:** Take particular care regarding your safety at Christmas. In any typical year, according to *Google* (So you just know that it all has to be true):

- 1) Hospitals report four broken arms after cracker-pulling accidents.
- 2) Three people die testing if a 9V battery works by holding the terminals against their tongue.

- 3) Five people are injured in accidents involving out-of-control *Scalextric* cars.
- 4) Eight people crack their skull after falling asleep while throwing up into the toilet.
- 5) Eighteen people experience serious burns trying on a new jumper while having a lit cigarette clamped between their lips.
- 6) Nineteen people die believing that Christmas decorations are made of chocolate.
- 7) Thirty-one people die when watering their Christmas tree while the fairy lights were plugged in.
- 8) Fifty-eight people are injured using sharp knives instead of screwdrivers as a tool.
- 9) One hundred and one people need to have broken parts of plastic toys pulled out of the soles of their feet.
- 10) One hundred and forty-two people are injured by not removing all pins from new shirts.
- 11) Five hundred and forty-three people are admitted to A&E after opening bottles of beer with their teeth.

**Thank you for all that you do to make this a safe place to work and study, and may I wish that you a Very Happy Christmas and an Excellent (and Completely Safe) New Year.**

**Lindsay Murray**  
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**Theme Tune: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvLV3OZAcyg>**

