

## **Accidental inoculations or other exposures with vectors or organisms containing recombinant DNA**

**The use of recombinant DNA (rDNA) has become routine in many labs. So routine and common, that it is easy to forget the NIH rDNA Guide requires that all recombinant nucleic acids in vectors, plasmids, organisms, etc be registered with the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC).**

**Caution:** The NIH requires that any significant incident (such as personnel exposure to, or release from containment of rDNA materials) that require Risk Group 2 (BSL2) precautions or higher, must be reported to the NIH within 30 days. The IBC is charged with determining whether an incident involving rDNA materials warrants notification of NIH.

**Remember:** Assist the IBC by reporting any rDNA exposures or containment releases to the Biohazard Compliance Office (BHC) by the next business day. The BHC Office will apprise the IBC members, which will make a determination before the 30 day period expires, as to whether the incident needs to be reported to the NIH. Please assist the IBC by reporting incidents ASAP so adequate time is available to gather the necessary information to make this determination.