



Rutgers Environmental Health & Safety (REHS)
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Patrick J. McDermott, CHP
Radiation Safety Officer



Change Alert: Monthly Wipe Tests



All changes below are effective July 1, 2023

KEY POINTS

- For non-tritium radioactive materials (RAM) users, MONTHLY wipe tests are no longer required.
- Active tritium (H-3) users will be required to perform QUARTERLY wipe tests (instead of monthly wipe tests).

IMPORTANT INFO

- **Active tritium (H-3) users** will now be required to perform QUARTERLY wipe tests only when tritium is used within that calendar quarter. If tritium has NOT been used in a calendar quarter, then a wipe test is NOT required during that quarter.
 - ❖ **Example:** Tritium is used on March 1, so a quarterly wipe test will be required at the end of that calendar 'Jan-Mar' quarter.
- REHS will inspect tritium labs quarterly.
- No Use Statements:
 - are still required if your lab has any tritium inventory.
 - are no longer required for non-tritium RAM users.
- Labs that run wipe tests should have access to a functional liquid scintillation counter (LSC). If the lab doesn't have an LSC, then they can request REHS to run their wipe test samples at the REHS lab.
- A Principal Investigator (PI) may elect to continue monthly wipe tests at their discretion. Therefore, all lab workers must first check with their PI on this matter to verify what their decision is before any changes are made.

WHY IS THIS CHANGE HAPPENING?

Based upon wipe test data spanning back to 2000, REHS and the Radiation Safety Committee have determined that there is no overall significant finding of contamination which would warrant continuance of this monthly function.

WHAT IS NOT CHANGING?

Post-experiment DAILY surveys and their documentation will continue as usual. For non-tritium RAM users, surveys using handheld survey meters are a cornerstone of our program and must still be performed.

Contact REHS with any questions!



New Rad Group Member

Diana Smith joined REHS on 5/1/2023 as our new Health Safety Specialist II in Radiation Safety. She has 30 years of experience as a Veterinary Technician in specialty/ER small animal practices, holds 2 veterinary certifications (Certified Veterinary Technician "CVT" and Veterinary Technician Specialist "VTS" in Oncology), has worked with various radiation-producing machines, and was Senior Safety Coordinator at National Veterinary Associates for almost 4 years which included managing their radiation safety program for rad machines & RAM. Diana is also a Rutgers/Cook College alumna with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science.

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NOTABLE INFO

- PerkinElmer has reorganized into 2 different companies:
 - News Release link-[CLICK HERE](#)
 - **Revvity** = diagnostics & life sciences divisions (RAM products, counters, scint cocktails, etc.), www.revvity.com
 - **PerkinElmer** = analytical & enterprise solutions www.perkinelmer.com
- Contact the entire RU Radiation Safety Group (Patrick, Leo, Patti, Diana) via 1 email: RadGroup@ipo.rutgers.edu



TRAINING CORNER



Register for classes online and find directions here:

https://half-life.rutgers.edu/training_calendar/calendar.php

All initial training sessions are held at the REHS office – see our website for directions to REHS:

<https://ipo.rutgers.edu/rehs/contact-rehs>

INITIAL RADIATION TRAINING SCHEDULE

Initial radiation safety training is required for all workers who intend to handle radioactive material. Training must be completed prior to working with radioactive material.

AUGUST 16 (Wednesday)	1 PM – 4 PM
SEPTEMBER 14 (Thursday)	9 AM – 12 PM
OCTOBER 12 (Thursday)	1 PM – 4 PM
NOVEMBER 10 (Friday)	9 AM – 12 PM
DECEMBER 11 (Monday)	1 PM – 4 PM