

Reported Occupationally Acquired Infections Laboratory Ferrets (*Mustela furo*) Zoonoses

Disease	Causative Organism	Probable Means of Spread to Man	Prevention
Campylobacteriosis	<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	Occupational exposure; fecal contamination; mainly food and water borne	Use good hygiene practices, handwashing, sanitation; wear protective clothing (gloves) when handling infected animals
Cryptosporidiosis	<i>Cryptosporidium parvum</i>	Occupational exposure; fecal contamination	Use good hygiene practices, handwashing, sanitation; wear protective clothing (gloves) when handling infected animals.
Dermatophytosis (Ringworm)	<i>Microsporum, Trichophyton</i>	Contact with animal hair and dander	Good hygienic practices, especially handwashing; clean and disinfect tools or instruments used on animals; practice good sanitation
Giardia	<i>Giardia lamblia</i>	Occupational exposure; fecal contamination	Use good hygiene practices, handwashing, sanitation; wear protective clothing (gloves) when handling infected animals.
Influenza	<i>Orthomyxovirus</i>	Aerosolization	Vaccination annually. Wear N95 respirator. Do not work with ferrets with flu-like symptoms.
Legionellosis	<i>Legionella pneumophila</i>	Aerosol or droplet exposure during animal challenge.	Wear appropriate PPE when handling animals or changing bedding. Good hygienic practices.
Mycobacteriosis	<i>Mycobacterium avium, bovis, tuberculosis</i>	Occupational exposure; fecal contamination and bite wounds.	Unlikely in a laboratory setting. Use good hygiene practices, handwashing, sanitation; wear protective clothing (gloves) when handling infected animals.
Rabies	<i>Rhabdovirus</i>	Bites/scratches of diseased animals; aerosols in closed environments	Unlikely transmission in laboratory ferrets due to vaccination status. Avoid bite wounds and report any bites to supervisor
Salmonellosis	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Contact with experimentally and naturally infected animals.	Wear appropriate PPE when handling animals or changing bedding. Good hygienic practices.

Physical hazards:

Animal induced injuries such as bites or scratches. May also include exposure to allergens, such as animal dander and fecal material.