



Safety Newsletter

May 2022

We are getting closer to winter now and you can feel it in the air. The mornings and evenings are definitely crisper - even with the return of the incessant rain! There's still time to book in for your annual flu shot. There are some appointments still available at the Health Service, though they are being snapped up so check out the article below and get in quick.

Have you got an HP I15.4 ()13.4eo TJ-20.e1 TJ0 Tc 1e1 TJ0.8Tm(.4 ()1 (ot197 ()l)0.7 (l)12.7 ()-2.7 (k)n b g)13.3 3 (i)k now)6 (a)13.3

When will the flu clinic commence?

The annual staff influenza clinics for 2022 will commence Wednesday 27 April 2022 and run until Friday 17 June, from 9am - 12.30pm. We are also offering Saturday clinics. Please visit [HOTDOC Online appointments](#).

Japanese Encephalitis

Japanese encephalitis is caused by a mosquito-borne virus, detected in parts of SE Queensland, New South Wales, the Northern Territory, Victoria and South Australia. Do you undertake fieldwork where mosquitoes.

Pictured left is an example of a fully enclosed 'low shoe' design which would be considered the minimum coverage for your feet. Shoes can provide greater coverage, such as ankle, calf, knee-high and thigh boots. For more information, refer to your Supervisor, Lab Manager or [Safety contact](#).

Working with Hydrofluoric acid (HF) and HF precursors

During a lab inspection, a bottle of sodium fluoride was found on a bench shelf instead of in a toxic storage cabinet. Calcium gluconate, the countermeasure for HF exposures, was not available in the first-aid kit.

Staff and students working with HF are reminded that HF is a corrosive and toxic acid that can cause serious burns and even death. The risks of working with HF or HF precursors must be assessed and eliminated or reduced.

In the event of exposure, urgent first aid is crucial, even for minor exposures as the full extent of injuries may not be immediately obvious.

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