

COLD ROOM USAGE

This room does NOT have ventilation. Limit occupancy to this room to a total of two hours per 24 hour period (for example, 1 person for 2 hours, 2 people for 1 hour, etc.).

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- **HUMAN FOOD/BEVERAGE STORAGE: NEVER** store food/beverages in a cold room.
- **COMPRESSED GASES: NEVER** use gases in a cold room. Gases used from compressed gas cylinders can reduce the oxygen level and can result in asphyxiation.
- **DRY ICE: NEVER** store dry ice in a cold room. Dry ice can create an oxygen deficient atmosphere when it sublimates and carbon dioxide is released.

CHEMICAL USE & STORAGE

- **FLAMMABLE SOLVENTS:** Some flammable solvents can release sufficient vapors to form explosive atmospheres. Do **NOT** store or use quantities greater than 250 ml.
- **NON-FLAMMABLE SOLVENTS/CHEMICALS:** Some hazardous chemicals (e.g. chloroform, formaldehyde) may vaporize causing exposures. Limit quantities to less than 250 ml. Do **NOT** place these chemicals in squeeze dispenser bottles.
- **SPIILLS OF ORGANIC MATERIALS:** Promptly remove spilled materials!

MINIMIZE MOLD GROWTH

- Mold can thrive on any organic medium. Promptly clean up any spilled liquids. Keep surfaces clean. Never use bleach on metal surfaces (bleach on metal surfaces can result in pitting).
 - **FOR MINOR CLEANING: Use a wet clean up method (e.g., dampen cloth with a non-ammoniated soap or detergent (do not mix ammonia and bleach; the fumes are toxic). Dry surfaces to ensure moisture has been removed.**
 - **IF MOLD REAPPEARS SOON AFTER CLEANING: Remove contaminated items and use any hospital approved disinfectant on mold contaminated surfaces. Dry surfaces to ensure moisture has been removed.**
- Report water leaks to Facilities by calling x3-4567.
- Keep door firmly shut to prevent condensation. Maintaining the relative humidity to less than 60% helps to discourage mold growth.
- Watch for condensation door gaskets and other surfaces. Condensation may be an indication of a loss of containment. Contact Facilities at x3-4567 for an evaluation.
- Remove all wood, cardboard and paper products. These materials can absorb moisture and, because it is composed of cellulose, is a perfect breeding ground for mold.
- **Users will be held responsible for cleaning mold growth if EH&S inspections note improper actions that could contribute to mold growth.**

ADMINISTRATION

Because cold rooms are shared between groups, all users must take the appropriate action to resolve the issue in the cold room to prevent the creation of potentially hazardous atmospheres.

EH&S will report issues of unapproved use of the cold room to the department for corrective actions.

For further information, refer to the complete Cold Room Guidelines found at <http://www.safety.rochester.edu/ih/coldrooms.html> or contact EH&S's Occupational Safety Unit at 275-3241.