



INTRODUCTION TO LABORATORY RISK MANAGEMENT (LRM)

EdU's Risk Situation Table*

Question	Description	Additional Notes
Activity/ Procedure	New RT PCR (rRT-PCR)	
Who is involved in the activity?	Core laboratory team members (and additional team members as needed)	There may be other laboratory staff supporting surge testing if the volume is higher than the core staff can handle
Level of experience	Majority of staff is new to the department	
Will it include working with a biological agent?	Yes, novel flu virus H2ON20	
Laboratory Setting	EdU's clinical microbiology laboratory	
Risks (What could go wrong?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EdU's laboratory is appropriately staffed to handle day-to-day testing but there are no additional laboratory staff to assist during periods of high testing volume, so EdU hired new staff members to assist • It is currently the peak of the influenza season and there is a high volume of tests for viral respiratory illnesses • The use of a new assay would require additional training on new procedures and/or instruments some staff members may not be familiar with • As a result of the many new staff members, there are additional risks of accidental laboratory acquired infections (LAIs). Such an infection could be caused by exposure to the H2ON20 virus in the following scenarios: 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sample mix up during specimen receiving/processing ○ Improper use of the BSC ○ Improper inactivation during the extraction phase ○ Inconsistent or improper use of PPE ○ Improper handling of waste 	
What is different about this activity today than during previous experiences?	The H2ON20 virus is different from other influenza viruses because those infected with H2ON20 have high morbidity and mortality rates. Also, there are no effective therapies, treatments, or vaccines available for the H2ON20 virus.	

* **Please note:** This resource is based on the fictitious EdU scenario and is intended only for the purpose of this risk management training. Please reference your laboratory's policies and procedures for site-specific risks and considerations.