

2025 CHP and Safe Workplace Review

The annual safe practice work review, including a review of blood borne hazard control/exposures, chemical hygiene, and review of lab accidents, has been completed and after investigation of occurrences, no modifications to the safety policies and procedures are needed to prevent recurrences of problems or the mitigation of risk of pathogen transmission.

Action Plan from the 2024 CHP and Safe Workplace Review: An action plan was developed due to an increase in face splashes in 2024. The effectiveness was evaluated at each safety meeting. The plan was effective as there were no splashes to the face in 2025.

INJURIES: There were 11 injuries reported in 2025. There were no trends identified.

- 5 illnesses from a single event- a faulty UPS emitted an odor causing headaches and nausea. Occupational health developed an SBAR with recommendations to prevent future issues including inspections of UPS, upgrading ventilation, if possible and on-going monitoring of the units.
- 3 slip/trip/falls
- 2 cuts: 1 by a coverslip on a slide and another from a contaminated scalpel.
- 1 injury from replacing a water jug

Formalin testing was performed on employees in Histology and Central processing. One employee in histology had a reading of >2.0 STEL limit. Hood was inspected and was in proper working condition with appropriate airflow, Video of workflow was reviewed and employee performed grossing with proper technique. It was observed that the formalin containers were too close to the employee. Formalin containers were moved and retesting came back within acceptable limits.

Noise Levels were monitored in all Laboratory departments at both Milford and Bridgeport Campuses. Noise levels were within acceptable limits.

Chemical Inventory was reviewed and updated

Safety Manual was reviewed and updated as needed.

Spill Kits were inventoried and evaluated for effectiveness. N95 cartridges were replaced in all the kits.

Risk Assessments were reviewed and updated as needed

Ergonomic assessments were performed at both Campuses

- **Milford Campus:** recommendations included purchasing footrests for shorter employees and setting up any new seated workstations at 29 inches. Footrests and shock absorbing mats for CP were ordered.
- **Bridgeport Campus:** recommendations included purchasing footrests for shorter employees and with future renovations ,replacing countertop workstations with electronically adjustable sit -to- stand tables. Dr. Minerowicz requested a new assessment of histology with the assessor and someone familiar with the workflows. To be scheduled in early 2026.

Monthly safety Audits were performed at both Campuses. There were a few trash cans in areas where specimens are processed that did not have covers. New cans with lids were ordered and placed in those areas

Centrifuge and Bio-safety Cabinet training was completed by employees

Fire Response Training was completed

Category A and B Shipping training was completed

Donning and Doffing training was completed

Annual Director Safety Walk-thru was completed at Both Campuses.

Bridgeport Campus:

- AP: A fume Hood will be placed in AP in 2026 to help with ventilation
: Space is inadequate in histology and grossing room
- Core Lab: clutter throughout the lab has been removed

Milford Campus:

- MC lab was in process of renovations at the time of the walk through. No other issues identified.

APPROVED

By Christine Minerowicz, MD at 11:41 am, Mar 07, 2026

APPROVED

By Nalan Yurtsever, MD at 10:22 am, Feb 09, 2026

APPROVED

By Teodorico Lee MPH, MLS (ASCP) at 2:31 pm, Feb 05, 2026