

Safety Committees

University Safety Liaison Committee

This committee is composed of university faculty and staff who have expertise in safety. The committee is responsible for developing policies and guidelines relating to safety for the entire institution. The committee's membership includes the Director of the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (Chair), Director of the Physical Plant Division, Director of Campus Police, Director of Employee Health, the MCVH Safety Officer and others deemed appropriate by the Chair. The committee is responsible for developing policies and university safety guidelines. Annually the committee receives nominations for the "University Safety Awareness Award." Those individuals or departments making an outstanding contribution to the safety of the university and academic medical center are recognized.

VCUHS Environment of Care Committee

This committee provides a safe, functional, supportive and effective environment for patients, staff members, and other individuals in the hospital. In order to achieve this goal the Health System utilizes the following processes:

- G Strategic and on-going master planning by hospital leaders for the space, clear circulation of occupants, equipment, supportive environment and resources needed to safely and effectively support the services provided.
- G Educating the staff about the role of the environment in safely, sensitively and effectively supporting patient care.
- G Developing standards to measure staff and hospital performance in managing and improving the environment of care.
- G Implementing plans to create and manage the hospital's environment of care.

Radiation Safety/Radioactive Drug Research Committee

Various members of the university and hospital community serve on this committee. The committee reviews and approves all research and clinical, human and non-human uses of radionuclides and radiation producing devices.

Institutional Biosafety Committee

This committee has been established to review control practices for handling biohazardous agents, carcinogens, infectious agents, and recombinant DNA. The committee also serves in an advisory capacity to the University Office of Environmental Health & Safety. The committee is composed of individuals from different university departments and units.

Institutional Review Boards (Committee on the Conduct of Human Research)

This committee is composed of a number of panels that include faculty members and non-VCU affiliated individuals. It is responsible for protecting the safety and rights of persons involved as subjects in research at the university.

Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee

This committee is responsible for review of the institution's program for humane care and use of animals; inspection of all animal facilities including animal study areas; submission of reports of its evaluations to the Institutional Officer; review, and if warranted, investigation of concerns involving the care and use of animals at the institution resulting from public complaints received and from reports of noncompliance received from laboratory research facility personnel; and review of proposed uses of animals in research, testing or education (i.e., protocols).