

Typhoon Usage Policies Regarding Radioactive Sources

1. No radioactivity is permitted in the Genomics Core facility. We realize that our customers may have phosphorescence screens that have been exposed to radioactive gels or blots. Customers *must* remove the radioactive sources from cassettes in their own laboratories *prior* to transporting cassettes and screens to IIGB lab areas. As a common use area on campus, restricting the use of radioactivity is important for both the safety of all customers as well as liability.

2. Genomics Core screens and cassettes. Customers who check out screens and cassettes from the Genomics Core are responsible for ensuring that they are not contaminated with radioactive isotopes. This should be evident by scanning the screen on the Typhoon. If contamination is detected or suspected, customers *must* notify the Genomics Core staff immediately. A radioactive screen or cassette should *never* be left unattended as other customers may inadvertently use them. A plexiglass shield is available behind which a contaminated screen can be placed for safety. ***The shield is available for this purpose only and is not meant to imply permission to bring radioactive sources into IIGB labs. Do not leave screens or cassettes behind the shield unless you suspect contamination.***

3. Monitoring and accountability. As part of an updated on-line sign-up form Typhoon users will be required to indicate if and what type of radioactive isotope they have used for their experiment. This will help us to locate individuals using radioactivity, if necessary. The Genomics Core staff will conduct regular radiation surveys of the areas around the Typhoon to ensure that all users are adhering to these policies. In addition, campus Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) representatives will conduct periodic assays for radioactivity in this area.

Please note: Researchers and responsible PIs that are determined to be in willful violation of these policies:

1. will be reported to EH&S as part of any resulting investigation
2. will have privileges to use the Typhoon instrument revoked
3. will have access to the Genomics Core labs (and possibly all IIGB facilities) revoked

Personal responsibility is critical for overall safety. The safety of your colleagues should be your highest priority, so please take issues of radioactivity seriously.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Genomics Core staff at gencore@ucr.edu (2-3984) or UCR Environmental Health and Safety Radiation Safety Officer Karen Janiga (Karen.janiga@ucr.edu).

For emergencies after hours, please contact UCR police (911).