Women of Child-bearing Age

If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant and you work with animals or their tissues certain precautions may need to be taken during your pregnancy while working with research animals, biohazardous materials, chemical agents, gas anesthetic agents, or ionizing radiation.

It is recommended that you discuss your pregnancy and your work environment (animal and/or hazardous materials exposure; frequency and duration, personal protective controls and other safety practices) that could affect your developing baby with the staff at the University's Occupational Health Services (OHS) clinic. This allows for planning of special precautions and work assignments according to risk factors.

To receive authorization for an OHS clinic visit, email the OSEH Medical Surveillance Coordinator

Infectious Diseases

Pregnant workers may be at higher risk if they contract certain animal diseases, since treatment of the disease may be complicated by pregnancy and the disease may affect the developing fetus.

The zoonotic agents below may affect the developing fetus. To find out more information, please see: OSEH: Animal Handler Medical Surveillance Program.

- Brucella (dogs, pigs, cows)
- Chlamydomphila abortus (pregnant sheep and cattle)
- Chlamydomphila psittaci (birds)
- Q Fever (cattle, sheep, and goats)
- Toxoplasmosis (cats)