** FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE **

**DIVISION OF ANIMAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION**

**Laboratory of Physiology**

**HYGIENE AND SAFETY OF THE STUDENTS AND THE STAFF IN THE**

**PHYSIOLOGY LABORATORY**

* Students and personnel working or participating in laboratory activities must wear laboratory coats. The coat's use must be restricted solely to the laboratory area.
* In special cases, the use of gloves, face masks or protective glasses is necessary.
* The consumption of food and drinks in the laboratory area is not allowed, nor is their storage in refrigerators designated for the storage of reagents or biological samples.
* The deposition of clothes, bags or other personal items on the laboratory benches, used for exercise or work, is not permitted.
* When drawing liquids, always utilize automatic pipettes or siphons equipped with special plastic pumps and never suction by mouth.
* The use of syringes, metal spikes and other sharp objects is conducted under the supervision of the instructor and only after the demonstration of the correct technique.
* Immediate and thorough handwashing is mandatory after contact with substances and, in any case, at the end of exercise or work in the laboratory area.
* The laboratory area, workbenches and equipment/devices must be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
* Natural ventilation of the laboratory area is conducted during breaks and upon the completion of each exercise or work.

**Use of chemicals and devises**

* Chemicals are used with great caution and strictly adhere to the provided instructions and usage guidelines.
* The use of volatile or flammable substances is conducted with utmost care inside a fume hood to minimize the exposure to toxic and/or irritating substances.
* Operation of devices must be conducted according to the guidelines of the manufacturer regarding the handling and the safety of the operator.

**Waste management**

Waste management is presented in Table 1.

**Table 1**: Waste categories, material types and waste management based on packaging color coding.

| **Waste categories** | **Type of materials** |  | **Management** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Urban waste** | Glass, paper, plastic, metals, etc.  Waste from the cleaning of communal areas.  Waste that has been sterilized.  |  | **Black-colored** packaging – Materials that do not require special processing. |
| **Non-toxic chemical waste** | Water-soluble chemical substances, acids, alkalis, salts, etc. |  | Discharge into the **sewerage** and wash out with plenty of water. |
| **Toxic chemical waste** | Solvents and other toxic liquids. |  | Collection in **special containers** to prevent water pollution. |
| **Infectious waste** | Biological materials (e.g. urine, blood, milk, tissues).Materials containing biological liquids (e.g. gloves, blood collection vials, blood smears). |  | Materials for incineration(usually **yellow-colored** containers). |
| **Sharp objects** | Materials that can pierce or cut (e.g. needles, metal spikes, scalpels). They are considered extremely dangerous and potentially infectious. |  | Rigid, durable, disposable packaging (usually **yellow boxes**). |

* **First aid**: In case of small injuries in the Physiology laboratory, a first aid kit exists.
* **Medical assistance** is provided at the General Hospital of Karditsa (Emergency Care Unit). **Telephone: 2441351520 / ΕΚΑΒ (National Service of Emergency Care) Telephone: 166.**
* **In case of fire,** a dry powder extinguisher exists in the Physiology laboratory**.**

**Fire Service Telephone: 199.**

**Attention! The laboratory room and the equipment must be maintained clean.**