

### **3.7. Laboratory Attire and Personal Protective Equipment**

- Shoes must cover the entire foot. Open toed shoes and sandals are inappropriate footwear in laboratories. Fabric and athletic shoes offer little or no protection from biological spills. Leather shoes or equivalent (chemically resistant shoes) with slip resistant soles are required. Street clothing is to be chosen so as to minimize exposed skin below the neck. Long pants are required. Avoid rolled up sleeves. Shorts (including cargo shorts), capris, miniskirts, tank tops, sleeveless shirts and midriff-length shirts are inappropriate clothing in laboratories.
- Laboratory coats are designed to be fluid resistant and help protect the user from accidental splashes and spills of biological material. Laboratory coats are required whenever working with biological material.
- Gloves must be worn whenever handling or working with biological material. Latex and nitrile gloves are typically appropriate for work in biological laboratories. It is important to keep in mind what chemicals will be used alongside biologicals and chose gloves appropriate for the task that will be performed. Gloves must be chosen that are the appropriate size to help minimize the risk for incident.
- Safety glasses or goggles are required whenever there is a risk of splashing.
- Additional PPE, including a face shield, a face mask, or an N95 respirator may be required depending on the agent in use and the planned manipulations. These requirements will be outlined in any approved IBC protocols.