Virtual Buddy System and laboratory safety.
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C. Stubbs

Access to labs for essential functions must conform to laboratory safety expectations. However, having two people travel for tasks that can be done by one person is not in the public interest.

We will allow single individuals to perform essential laboratory functions IF they establish an open telephone line, or even better a Facetime-style connection, with a “virtual buddy” for the period between building entry and building exit. For cases where phone connectivity is not possible within buildings, interruptions of no longer than 10 minutes are permissible. If this is needed, set a timer!

The person entering the building needs to provide building and room number to their virtual buddy, as a written text message. The virtual buddy must confirm receipt.

The external “virtual buddy” is responsible for monitoring the well-being of the person in the building, giving that task their full attention.

A period exceeding 15 minutes of no communication requires calling 911, providing the building, room number, and name of person in the lab.

During this period of restricted access, the use of any powered tools is expressly forbidden.

The use of personal protective equipment (face protection and appropriate gloves) is mandatory for LN dewar changes.

No hazardous chemicals can be used by single individuals.

Ensure that all gas bottles are restrained at both the top and the bottom of the cylinder.