**Standard Operating Procedure**

***Escherichia* *coli* (E.coli) handling**

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**Personal Protective Equipment**

* Gloves (on bench) and lab coat (beside the sink)

**Proper waste disposal and decontamination**

* Decontaminate all surfaces you have used after finishing your work using 70% ethanol and paper tower.
* For liquid waste in tubes (<50 ml): disinfect by using 50% (v/v) bleach for at least 15 mins then dispose by pouring down the sink.
* For liquid waste (>50 ml): autoclave at 121ºC for at least 20 minutes, once cooled dispose by pouring down the sink. Do not autoclave bleach.
* For Solid waste (eg, bacterial plates, pipette tips): dispose into the orange bag with “Biohazard” sign, autoclave in autoclavable bucket or on a metal tray at 121ºC for at least 20 minutes and then put into black bag and dispose as regular garbage.

**Transport and storage**

* Keep the bacterial plates at 4ºC in the deli fridge. Keep bacteria in tubes at -80ºC for long-term storage. Ask about specific preparation in each case.
* Plastic containers or racks should be used during hallway transportation. For two or more containers, use a cart.

**Spill in lab**:

* Clean the spill using paper towels immediately, then dispose of the paper towel into biohazard bag (orange bag). Decontaminate the surfaces using 70% ethanol and paper tower.