

# Information: Biosafety at JCU

WHS-PRO-INFO-009c

***This Information Sheet provides information for the biosafety application process at JCU.***

## **Biosafety at JCU**

Biological hazards are any biological agent, substance or material (whether alive or not) present in or arising from living organisms, that are or may be hazardous to the health or wellbeing of the environment or people.

James Cook University is an Accredited Organisation certified by the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR). Due to this accreditation and our duty of care, the University is required to have an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) in place. The IBC oversees compliance of JCU with the OGTR and makes recommendations relating to biosafety issues at JCU. Hazards the IBC specifically monitor include:

- Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)
- Materials derived from human sources
- Materials derived from animal sources in particular those with zoonotic infection
- Micro-organisms

