

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST
CRYO-EM CENTER**

Mail code CL-P2M
2730 S. Moody Ave.
Portland, OR 97201



Safety

General Precautions:

- Please always be careful while working with liquid nitrogen (LN2).
- Use the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provided by PNCC: gloves, eye protection and cryo-gloves while working with liquid nitrogen.
- Liquid Nitrogen can cause severe frostbite.
- All PNCC microscope and wet lab rooms are equipped with oxygen monitors. In the event one of these units start alarming please evacuate the space you are in and meet the rest of the PNCC staff at the break room.



Liquid Nitrogen Use in the Wet Lab:

1. Closed toe shoes must be worn to enter the wet lab.
2. Before starting your wet lab work please make sure you are using the correct Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (gloves, eye protection and cryo-gloves). If you wear glasses, please wear them while working with LN2.
3. If the tools in use get too cold, replace them with new ones to avoid freezing your fingertips. To reuse the tools, warm & dry them with the hair dryer and/or heat blocks available in the wet lab.
4. Do not refill 4L LN2 dewars by yourself. Ask on-site staff (SPOCs) to fill any dewars required for your work.
5. SPOCs will take care of the excess liquid nitrogen in the loading and clipping stations. Please do not discard of LN2 on the floor.

MANDATORY PPE



Setup



If your samples are BSL-2 stop immediately and notify PNCC staff
Only authorized PNCC staff may handle BSL-2 samples

- Turn on tweezer warmer.
- Ask PNCC staff to retrieve gridboxes from PNCC storage dewar.
- Verify contents of "Loading Kit" received from PNCC Staff:
 - o Foam LN2 Container
 - o Autoloader Cassette
 - o Autoloader NanoCab
 - o Autoloader Tweezers
 - o Filled 4L LN2 dewar
 - o Cassette Loading Station
 - Base
 - Lid
 - Lid cover
 - Two (2) top covers
 - Cassette gripper handle
 - Metal block

Shutdown

- Place cassette loading station covers, gripper, and metal block in the incubator to dry.
- Store autogrid tweezers on tweezer warmer.
- Dispose of excess LN2 appropriately.
- Notify staff that you have completed your loading session.
 - o Staff will return empty gridboxes to their appropriate place in PNCC storage dewar.