

**EMD 545b Biosafety and Biohazard Evaluation
Class Assignment #1: Risk Assessment Exercise**

Selection of a Human Pathogen for Risk Assessment Exercise

Pathogen:

“Caution” Statement:

Once you have identified a human pathogen for your project, please write a brief caution statement for a researcher wishing to work with your agent. Imagine that you are a commercial vendor and are making the pathogen available from your company for researchers. The caution statement should convey the key hazard(s) related to the agent based on your research of the risk assessment factors associated with the agent (see Part B below). The caution statement should be a series of concise statements that focuses the reader on the most significant hazards associated with the agent so that appropriate precautions can be taken prior to handling.

Example Caution Statements:

Diet Dr. Pepper 2 Liter Bottle states:

“WARNING.

CONTENTS UNDER PRESSURE.

CAP MAY BLOW OFF CAUSING EYE OR OTHER SERIOUS INJURY.

POINT AWAY FROM FACE AND PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY WHILE OPENING.”

Stop & Shop Ultra Pure Power Bleach states:

“Danger!

Keep out of reach of children.

Avoid contact with eyes. Use rubber gloves.

Use in well ventilated areas.

Do not transfer to other food or beverage containers.

Point mouth of bleach bottle away from you when opening and pouring.

DO NOT MIX WITH OTHER HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS, such as products containing Ammonia, Drain Cleaners, Rust Removers, Toilet Bowl Cleaners, or Acid.

Such combinations of chemical cleaners will release hazardous vapors. Prolonged Contact with metals may cause pitting or discoloration.”

It also states:

“Precautionary Statements: HAZARD TO HUMANS AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS
DANGER: CORROSIVE. May cause severe skin and eye irritation or chemical burns to broken skin. Causes eye damage. Wear safety glasses or goggles and rubber gloves when handling this product. Wash thoroughly with water after handling. Avoid breathing vapors. Vacate poorly ventilated areas as soon as possible. DO NOT return until strong odors have dissipated. “ (There are additional precautionary statements, but you should get the general idea from these examples).