

Department of Experimental  
Medicine at UCPH

How to enter an animal  
unit – persons and items

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN



# Why does AEM have rules for entry of persons, and for bringing in objects to an animal unit?

AEM is sectioned into a number of separate, isolated animal units.

Each unit has its own microbial status.

There is always a risk that the animals in the unit could be infected with an unwanted new microorganism.

One way an infection can be transmitted is by being carried on the surface of a person or an object.

The rules for entry aim to prevent this from happening. Each entry carries a certain risk, so the number of entries should be as few as possible.

In addition, there are **quarantine periods** for traffic between animal units.

These quarantine periods have been decided as a compromise between biosecurity and researcher's need for access to the different animal units.

See the next slide for an example.

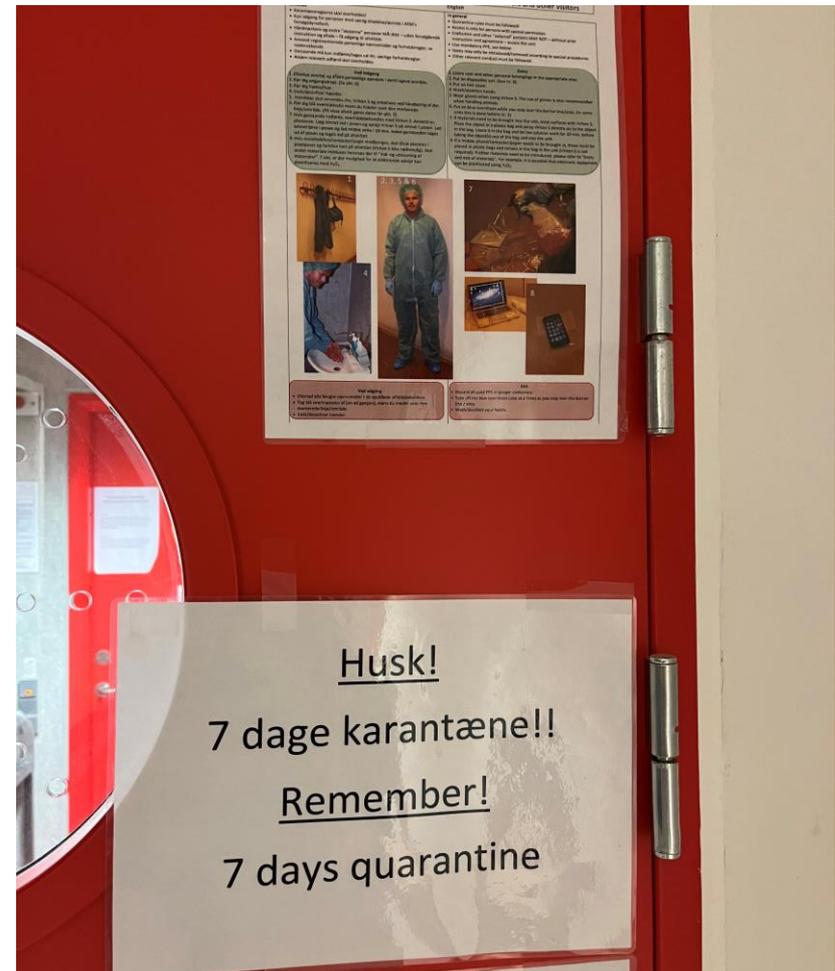
Traffic between animal units should be avoided as much as possible to minimize the risk.

The quarantine rules are here: <https://emed.ku.dk/forms/access/>



# Before entry

Always look at the door to the unit and read the posted signs and messages

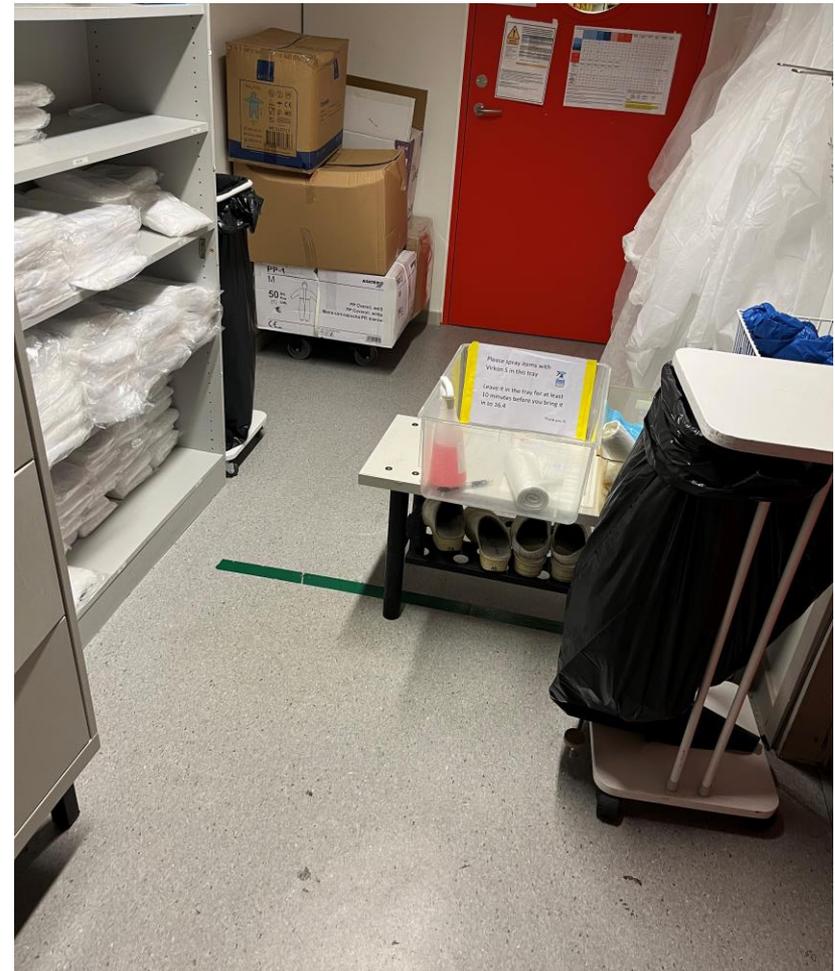


# The entry lock

A line on the floor and/or a bench or other divider marks the border between “outside” and “inside”

The clothing provided includes:

- Shoe covers
- Hairnet
- Coverall



# How to bring in a mobile phone

Put the phone into the small plastic bag.

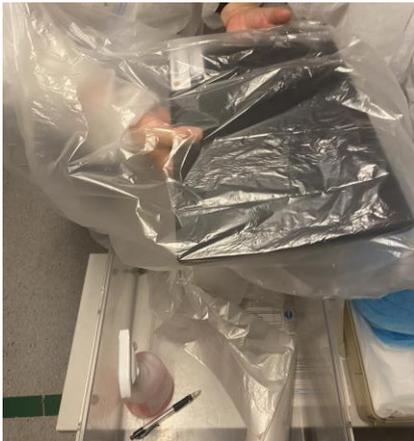
Place the phone so the stripes on the bag are not obstructing your view of the screen.

It is possible to use the phone while it is inside the bag.

**Never remove the phone from the bag while you are inside the animal unit**



# How to bring in a computer

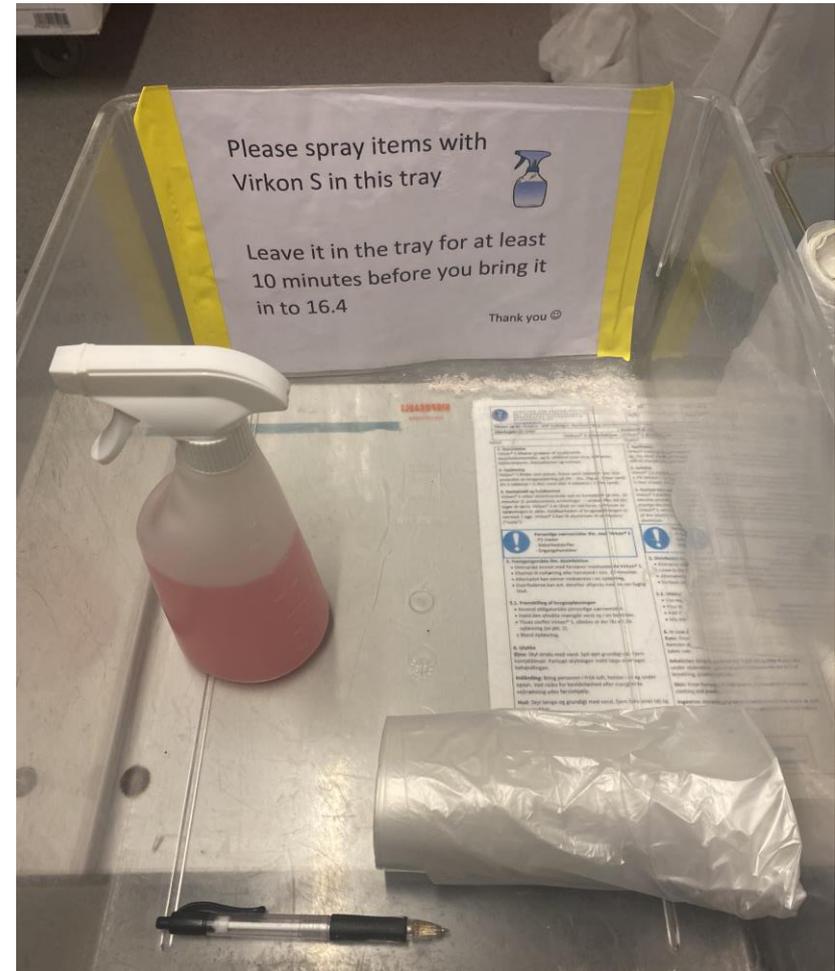


1. Place the computer inside a plastic bag
2. Tie a knot at the top of the bag
3. It is possible to work on the keyboard through the plastic bag

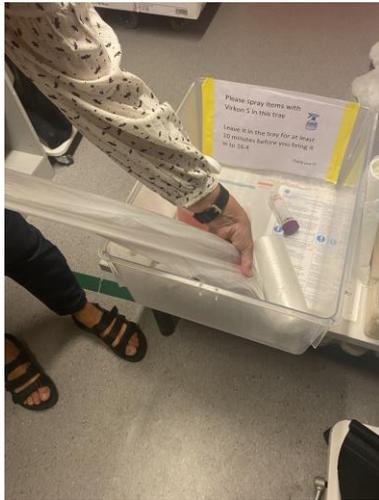
The bag must be intact with no punctures!

# How to take in items

- Items must be disinfected upon entry.
- Virkon S is the standard disinfectant.
- Virkon S requires 10 minutes for effect
- Virkon S is irritating to eyes, skin and respiratory system – therefore you must either wear protective equipment, or the disinfection must be performed as a contained procedure
- If your item does not tolerate Virkon S disinfection please contact **emedvet@sund.ku.dk**



# The “marinade method” – containment procedure



1. Take a plastic bag.
2. Put the items to be disinfected into the bag.
3. Spray into the bag with Virkon S
4. Leave for 10 minutes (while you put on coverall etc.)
5. Put on gloves and take the items out of the bag



# How to bring in a Styrofoam box with ice

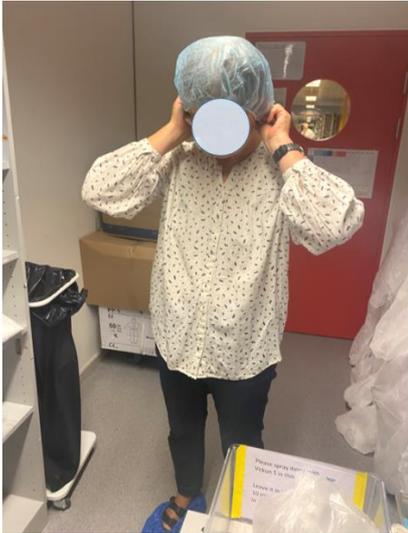


1. (In your own lab) Put on gloves, safety goggles and respiratory protection
2. (In your own lab) Spray the inside of the box and lid with Virkon S
3. (In your own lab) Put in ice and close the box with the lid.
4. (In the entry lock) Put the box into a plastic bag and use the marinade method to disinfect the surface of the closed box. Leave the box in the bag for 10 minutes for disinfection effect.

1. Entry of person: put on shoe covers - you may only step over the line on the floor and touch the floor of "inside area" wearing the shoe cover



2. Entry of person:  
Put on hairnet and coverall.  
Wash your hands if possible, or disinfect with alcohol



# You are now ready to enter the unit

