

BIOHAZARD RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH HIGH-SPEED CELL SORTING

The International Society for the Advancement of Cytometry (ISAC) has published biosafety, risk assessment, and risk management information for addressing awareness and control of biohazards during the high-speed sorting of unfixed human cells, non-human primate cells, or those that may contain suspect or known human pathogens, toxins, or biohazardous recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules.

Significant aerosols may be created during a clog, deflection, or misalignment in most high-speed cell sorters. The number of aerosols, relative to other biohazard conditions in normal labs, can be massive, to the point where aerosol clouds can be visually seen.

Due to the massive risk of biohazardous aerosol generation, high-speed cell sorters merit additional attention and review by Yale EHS.

[See the ISAC Biosafety Standards](#)