Biosecurity

Biosecurity is relevant to the life sciences. Scientific research into risky pathogens is essential for developing diagnostics, vaccines, and therapies. However, research results can also be misused. For example, pathogen substances are important for life sciences, but can also be used to develop biological weapons.

To help knowledge institutions combat this form of dual use, the Biosecurity Office has been set up at the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) as a government biosecurity knowledge and information point. Part of the website is aimed specifically at researchers. This includes:

- An online tool for identifying potential dual-use aspects of research (dual-use quickscan).
- The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) biosecurity code of conduct.
- Dual-use animation. This animated video explains the various concepts related to dual-use and export control.
- Biosecurity Movie. This film provides an introduction into eight pillars of good practice for biosecurity, that are important when implementing biosecurity control measures.
- Combined list of biological agents.

Check out the RIVM Biosecurity Office website for more information.

Other pages relating to biosecurity:

- Information security | Bureau Biosecurity
- Biosecurity and dual use research | NWO
- Working with genetically modified organisms - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (vu.nl)
- Nagoya protocol (EN) - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (vu.nl)