Burke Medical Research Institute
Laboratory Coat Guide

Laboratory Coats:
- Are required to be worn when working in a lab.
- Minimize contamination of clothes and skin from contaminated surfaces.
- Are made with a tightly woven material to slow the spread and penetration of potential spills to your personal clothing or your skin.
- Are designed for quick removal in the event of a spill or splash by using snap-front closures.

Always:
- Wear a laboratory coat when you are working in the laboratory.
- Wear your laboratory coat fully closed.
- Use flame-resistant laboratory coats (e.g., Nomex) when working with larger amounts of flammable liquids and/or pyrophoric materials.
- Remove your laboratory coat when finished working in the laboratory (e.g., going to lunch or meetings).

Laundering Procedures
- Laboratory coats are tagged with a barcode to identify ownership, increase auditing efficiencies, and reduce lost or missing garments.
  - Staff should be issued at least two lab coats. Employees can acquire and use their own supply of lab coats, but EHS must be notified for barcode tagging. Contact the Chemical Safety Officer for assistance with lab coat tagging.
- For laundering, deposit lab coats in hamper located on the first-floor hallway, across from the BRARC facility (room S-124).
- Lab coats in the laundry hamper are collected weekly (at a minimum) for laundering by Unitex Textile Services.
- After pickup from the hampers, please allow for 1-2 weeks for your lab coats to be processed and returned.
- Clean lab coats will be placed on hooks located in the first-floor hallway, across from the BRARC facility (room S-124).

For additional information regarding lab coat selection (e.g., regarding reactive or flammable chemicals) and ordering information, please contact EHS at 646-962-7233.