The Animal Exposure Risk Assessment (ARA) is a health risk assessment for anyone working with animals at USC. It is required to be completed prior to conducting research on any protocols involving animals. The ARA gives you the option of being evaluated by a healthcare provider or you may choose to opt out.

**How does it work?**
After you complete the ARA online at USC-REDCap, the Occupational Medicine physician will review and evaluate your personal risk for animal work.

**Who needs to fill out an ARA?**
Anyone who works with animals at USC needs to complete the ARA every three years or when you experience significant changes in your health status. NOTE: The ARA is a key part of the Laboratory Animal Allergen Prevention Program.

**FACT**
About one third of people who work with animals regularly may develop allergies*

**How do I get my results?**
The Occupational Medicine physician will evaluate your personal health risks of working with animals and will determine if you are cleared for animal work, or if further evaluation is recommended. An N95 respirator may be recommended for use.

**What if I need further evaluation?**
If further evaluation is recommended, you will be seen by a physician with Keck Internal Medicine. At this evaluation, you and the internal medicine physician will discuss your potential health risks working with animals.

**Additional Information**
EH&S Occupational Medicine Program web page
Animal Risk Assessment (ARA) Form online
Animal Allergy Fact Sheet
Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals [NRC, 2011]