



Animal Resource & UCAR E-Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 29, 2009

VOLUME FALL 2009

The University of Rochester is committed to maintaining the highest standards of care for animals used in research, education and training. Please follow the link for additional information about reporting animal welfare concerns and the responsibilities of the institution to respond to these concerns

(<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/ucar/animalconcerns.htm>).

MICROISOLATOR TECHNOLOGY TIPS

NEVER bring a cart into or out of a room,
NEVER wear your lab coat, hat or sweater in an MIT room,
NEVER take water bottles or tag holders out of the original container without using MIT and
ALWAYS wear the protective sleeves.

Contact the Animal Resource Office (5-2651) if you have questions regarding Microisolator Technology.

Do your rodents visit your laboratory?

Remember to turn the water bottle around during travel to prevent water leakage into the cage. Return the water bottle to its original position when you return the cage to the rack or shelf.

More Affordable Mouse Husbandry Cost Center Available in SMD (BASIC Mouse)

BASIC Mouse isolation (previously known as Standard Isolation or Autoclave & Bag) cost center will cost **\$0.426** per cage per day which is less than our **MIT Mouse** (Microisolator Technology) cost center **\$0.447 per cage per day**. BASIC Mouse isolation requires less labor because we do not change the soiled cages in a biosafety cabinet in the room and because we autoclave all of the cage materials in a stacked fashion. BASIC Isolation mice may be housed in rooms in the School of Medicine & Dentistry, two way CVRI and Annex.

MIT Mouse isolation provides the strictest barrier for maintaining immunodeficient, irreplaceable genetically altered and foundation colonies of mice. All mice housed in the KMRB Vivarium (a ONE WAY facility), CVRI ONE WAY Vivarium, the Annex Foundation Colonies and select rooms in the School of Medicine & Dentistry will continue to be housed using Microisolator Technology (MIT Mouse) at a cage charge of \$0.447 per cage per day.

If you would like to change from **MIT Mouse** Cost Center to **BASIC Mouse** Cost Center because you do not need the strictest barrier, do not want to handle your mice in a biosafety cabinet or want to save on per diem costs, please submit an Animal Move Form available at (<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/vivarium/includes/documents/animalmoveformrevised.pdf>) or in the Animal Resource Office (G6726). Leave the new room number blank and we will contact you with your options and timeline given the transition associated with space reallocation.

U of R MOUSE Barriers (strictest KMRB to more relaxed BASIC 2 Way)

One-Way and Two-Way zones for housing rodents have experienced a signage make over. The existing Animal Resource Orientation which includes an auditorium presentation and targeted facility tour for all new employees emphasizes the concept of housing rodents in one way and two way zones. When ordering rodents through our Animal Resource Office, investigators specify one-way or two-way rooms to receive their animals. As a reminder, rodents housed in a one way zone (e.g. KMRB vivarium, S-Wing Basement vivarium, CVRI Breeding Colonies) experience one-way movement out with no possibility of returning to the zone. In contrast, rodents housed in two-way zones may be taken back and forth between the animal room and labs.

Two-way zones are at higher risk of breaking with an infectious agent (e.g. pinworms) given traffic in less controlled areas (e.g. public hallways and shared labs). Given the risk of carrying a murine infectious agent on your clothing, all personnel must follow the same traffic pattern as the mice. Simply put, staff may not enter a one-way zone (the most protected colony health) after being in a two-way zone (less protected colony health). If your work requires entry into one-way and two-way zones on the same day, you must plan your day to enter the one-way zones first.

Did you know?

According to the Public Health Service Policy, an "Animal Facility" is any and all buildings, rooms, areas, enclosures, or vehicles, including satellite facilities, used for animal confinement, transport, maintenance, breeding, or experiments inclusive of surgical manipulation. A satellite facility is any containment outside of a core facility or centrally designated or managed area in which animals are housed for more than 24 hours. Therefore, animals not regulated by USDA (purpose bred rats, mice, birds, fish and amphibians) **can not be kept in the laboratory greater than 24 hours.** USDA regulated animals (monkeys, dogs, cats, rabbits, ferrets, guinea pigs, gerbils, hamsters and wild species) can not be kept in the laboratory greater than 12 hours.

Example of EH&S Review Memo

TO:	Jan DeWard, Executive Secretary University Committee on Animal Resources
FROM:	Janet Ives, Industrial Hygiene Robert Passalugo, Industrial Hygiene
DATE:	June 26, 2008
SUBJECT:	UCAR Protocol Review for Hazardous Substances
PI Dept:	UCAR
Title:	UCAR
The review team provided you a review for biohazardous and chemical substances by EH&S. The review lists recommendations/requirements for the research- and Vivarium staff to follow. Changes to the protocol should be brought to our attention via an additional review team completion.	
RESEARCH PERSONNEL	
Robert Bruckman is to be contacted at least one week in advance of the study for the Vivarium. Dates will be provided with the appropriate safety permissions for the study.	
Responsible Person:	
Chemical Issues:	VIVARIUM STAFF
Responsible Person:	
Chemical Issues:	
cc:	Robert Bruckman Principal Investigator Diane Morrison-White
UCARXXXX-XX	

The Colony Health THREAT of Noncommercially Acquired Mice

The Animal Resource requires that rodents be obtained from approved commercial vendors if they are available from these sources. These rodents come to us with a defined health status which is verified on a regular basis through the sentinel program.

If rodents are not available from a commercial source, they may be obtained from non-routine vendors. Before arrival the DLAM veterinarians evaluate the health records of these animals. If they come from a colony with no history of pathogens, they are allowed to enter our clean quarantine room for quarantine and health testing prior to joining our established research colonies. If these animals come from a room where a pathogen has ever been found, they must be rederived before joining our resident population. The rederivation may be by embryo-transfer or C-section, and can occur at the vendor, at a commercial laboratory, or after the rodents arrive at this institution. DLAM requires rederivation of these animals because the traditional methods of pathogen elimination, such as "burn out" are no longer reliable in this day of genetically modified animals. Too many mice and rats have abnormal immune systems, sometimes unexpectedly, so their response when exposed to pathogens is not always the response that is seen in wild-type rodents. The quarantine period lasts about 7-8 weeks. During this time the rodents are treated for ecto and endoparasites. Sentinel rodents are processed after at least 4 weeks of exposure to dirty bedding.

Please contact one of the DLAM veterinarians if you wish to discuss the health of your research animals.

Reminder – MIT 2009 Re-fresher Training

All research staff that work with rodents in Microisolator (MIT) husbandry rooms are required to complete an annual refresher course in MIT (Blackboard) and hands-on training which is offered by DLAM. Your Blackboard accounts should be active. DLAM will provide times and locations for the hands-on training after you complete the Blackboard training and quiz.

If you have any questions regarding Blackboard contact Erin Hutteman at x3-5116. Questions regarding the hands-on training can be answered by DLAM at x5-2653.

EH&S/IBC review of UCAR protocol for Hazards

The University Committee on Animal Resources (UCAR) regularly sends new protocols and modifications of existing protocols to Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) and the University's Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) to be reviewed for health and safety concerns for Vivarium and research personnel. Since the IBC is also responsible for ensuring compliance with the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules, additional paperwork may be requested to initiate the review for biohazards.

Once the EH&S / IBC review has been completed, a safety summary will be provided to the Principal Investigator, the Vivarium, and the UCAR. This safety summary provides a succinct set of instructions tailored for the experiments. Questions regarding these instructions should be forwarded to Janet Ives (biohazards), Bob Passalugo (chemical hazards), or Tom Morgan (radiological hazards).

Planning on using hazardous materials in the Vivarium?

The Animal Resource annually certifies rooms for the use of hazardous (chemical, infectious and radioactive) materials in animals that are housed in the Vivarium. Two weeks prior to administering hazardous agents to laboratory animals you must notify the Animal Resource of your intentions (Notification of Intent to Use Hazardous Substances). Additionally, if the hazard is administered in food or water you are required to submit special request forms, use special cage cards and/or labels.

Contact us:

Phone

AR 5-2651
UCAR 5-1693

We're on the Web!
<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/vivarium/>
<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/ucar/>

Lastly, all individuals including Principal Investigators who are listed on the UCAR protocol will be checked for compliance with the University's annual lab safety training requirement. Approvals from EH&S and the IBC cannot be finalized until everyone has completed this training.

Helpful web links:

IBC: <http://www.safety.rochester.edu/ibc/>

EH&S: <http://www.safety.rochester.edu/>

Lab Safety Training:

<http://www.safety.rochester.edu/ih/ihtmlabhome.html>

Vivarium Access

Access to the Vivarium is for authorized individuals only. You must have completed all of the UCAR mandatory training and be listed on an approved UCAR protocol to gain card-swipe access.

Congratulations to Andrew Winterborn, DVM, DACLAM

Andrew Winterborn completed his residency program at the University of Rochester in June 2008. Last month he was notified that he had passed the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine exam and is considered a Diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. Andrew is the Director of Queens University Animal Care Program. He along with his wife Cindy and son Ben reside in Kinston, Ontario, Canada.

WEB-Based Submission of Animal Protocols

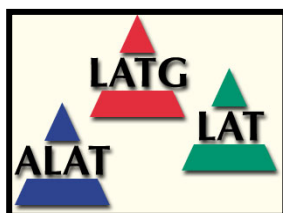
Your Animal Use Protocols can now be submitted on-line using Topaz Enterprise. The Topaz system can be accessed by web browsers (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari) from either a Mac or PC. UCAR has been accepting submissions on this system for about 6 months. Beginning January 1, 2010, all new submissions of animal protocols, and all 36-month reviews, must be submitted in this format. In order to submit a protocol, Principle Investigators who have not already done so **must attend** a TOPAZ training session and obtain an account. If a PI wants a lab manager or administrative staff member to have privileges to create and edit, or modify an on-line protocol they must also attend a training session.

All new faculty members who will be using animals in research must also submit their protocols on-line. Each faculty member must have an account in the active directory (domain name and password) in order to do this. Domain name requests are submitted on-line to ISD by individual Department Administrators. Arrangements can be made for training prior to moving to the University by contacting Jean Defendorf.

Please contact Jean Defendorf in the UCAR office to schedule training and with any questions.

Ordering Animals

Reminder: All animal orders must be placed with the Animal Ordering and Receiving Clerk's Office.



AALAS Certification Update:

Animal Care Staff: James Reid, RALAT; Rob McMillan, RLAT, Kate Knapp, RALAT

DLAM veterinary technicians: Chrys Monacelli, RALAT and Amanda Blanchard, RLATG