

Importing Rodents from Non-Commercial Sources

Purpose:

To describe the procedures for importing rodents from non-commercial sources; *Mus musculus* (mice), and *Rattus norvegicus* (rats).

Note: Rodents originating from non-commercial sources may be imported only under the following circumstances:

- If the source institution is able to supply suitable documentation indicating that the animals in question are free from all excluded agents, they will be quarantined in room 015 in the ACF.
- If the disease status of the source colony is uncertain or the source is known to harbor excluded agents, the animals may need to be re-derived at a commercial vendor prior to entering the ACF facilities.
- Rodents, regardless of health status, may be imported for acute use in quarantine. These animals will not be evaluated in quarantine. They may be used in the quarantine facility for tissue collection or acute experiments, where the animals are sacrificed immediately upon arrival at the ACF. Access to these animals is restricted. All acute use procedures must be discussed and coordinated with the ACF veterinarian prior to the animals' arrival and be specified in the IACUC protocol.

Procedure:

- 1) Submit a Request for Animals form including collaborator and institution animal facility contact information. The ACF will need to obtain the Animal Health Reports for the past year.
- 2) The ACF Staff will ensure the information is complete, obtain any additional information, and present the information to the Veterinarian.
- 3) If the ACF Veterinarian approves the shipment, notifications will be sent to the shipping institution and to the LUC PI or designee.
- 4) The ACF Staff will arrange shipment of the animals.
- 5) Mice will be housed in quarantine in room 015 of the ACF upon arrival. The mice are set up with a sentinel mouse cage. Upon completion of weekly exposures, for 14 days, to soiled bedding from quarantine mice, sentinel mice are tested for antibodies to MPV-1, MPV-2, MVM, NS-1, MHV, MNV, TMEV (GDVII), EDIM, SEND, PVM, REO, MPUL, LCMV, MAV, ECTRO, K, POLY, MCMV, HANT, ECUN, CARB, MTLV; and tested for pinworms, helicobacter and fur mites.
- 6) Rats will be housed in quarantine in room 015 of the ACF upon arrival. The rats are set up with a sentinel rat cage. Upon completion of weekly exposures, for 14 days, to soiled bedding from quarantine rats, sentinel rats are tested for antibodies to RPV, H-1, KRV, RMV, NS-1, SDAV, SEND, PVM, REO, MPUL, LCMV, MAV, RTV (GDVII), HANT, ECUN, CARB; and tested for pinworms, helicobacter and fur mites.
- 7) If the animals are negative for all agents at the end of quarantine, the animals may move to the assigned housing area.
- 9) If, during the quarantine, the animals are found to harbor excluded agents, the investigator will need to discuss potential options with the ACF veterinarian. Rederivation options will be based on the pathogen and genotype of the imported animals and may include treatment, burnout or embryo transfer.
- 10) Surveillance and isolation procedures will be instituted by ACF based on the identified pathogen.