

## Quarantine and Conditioning Procedures for Rodents

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### Purpose:

To describe the quarantine and conditioning procedures for *Mus musculus* (mice) and *Rattus norvegicus* (rats) or other rodent species.

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### Procedure:

- 1) Laboratory rodents are generally isolated in a specified quarantine area, room 015. Following the complete quarantine and acclimation period they can be relocated to the room that will serve for long-term housing.
- 2) Laboratory rodents supplied by approved vendors (see SOP "Approved Vendor Listing") will be placed on quarantine status for a three (3) day health monitoring and acclimation period prior to moving out of the designated quarantine room. Complete animal health records from the vendor will be requested with each animal shipment unless routine reports are provided by the vendor. These records will be reviewed upon arrival and will become a part of the colony records kept by the ACF Manager.
- 3) Animals from different vendors may be placed in the same room at the discretion of the ACF Director.
- 4) All animals from non-commercial sources will have a clean health history (i.e. animals suspected of being positive for pathogens [adventitious, MNV viruses, Helicobacter, parasites, etc.] may be rejected from the quarantine facility). However, all quarantine rodents should be considered pathogen-suspect.
  - a) Rodents from non-commercial sources will undergo a minimum 14-day quarantine/conditioning period which will include the following:
    - i) Baseline serological profiles and parasitology tests;
    - ii) Daily monitoring for evidence of infectious disease;
    - iii) Results reviewed by the ACF Director, or designee, prior to release of the animals;
    - iv) The Principal Investigator involved in such a quarantine/conditioning period is held responsible for all costs involved.
  - b) Access to the quarantine areas is limited to ACF personnel and official inspectors. Access for research staff may be granted by the ACF Director on a case-by-case basis.
- 5) The quarantine/conditioning period for commercial source rodents will consist of the following procedures:
  - a) Day 1
    - i) Animal(s) are received and examined according to SOP "Receipt of Incoming Animals"
    - ii) Animals are assigned to an approved animal protocol and room.
    - iii) Cage cards are created for groups of animals according to SOP "Preparation and Use of Cage Cards."
    - iv) ACF must be notified within 24 hours in order for diseased animals to be replaced by the vendor.
  - b) Day 2-7  
Animals are continued to be observed carefully for signs of illness or discomfort; all concerns are directed to the ACF Manager.
- 6) If the quarantine period for commercial animals is uneventful and the health of the animal remains stable, the veterinary staff will release the animals at the end of 7 days.