

Standard Operating Procedure

SOP Number: **02-18-4102**
Service: **Research**
Operating Section: **Husbandry**
Unit: **CMF**
Title: **Changing Animals within a Microisolator System**

Purpose:

To describe the procedures for changing or accessing animals housed within a micro-isolation system under barrier conditions.

Special Note:

- 1) While changing/accessing cages every effort should be made to minimize cross-contamination of cages.
 - a) Clean caging is provided for investigator use in sealed bags. Make sure the bag is re-sealed before opening any dirty caging in the hood. Do not store bags of clean caging on the floor.
 - b) Only one cage will be removed from the ventilated rack and opened in the hood at a time.
 - c) Rubber-tipped forceps or gloves must be appropriately disinfected between cages prior to handling the animals.
 - d) Gloves must be changed prior to changing/accessing different Investigator's cages/animals.

Procedure:

- 1) Ten minutes prior to changing/accessing cages, the blower on the change-out hood is activated. Spray the entire hood down with an appropriate disinfectant (see SOP "Preparation and Use of Disinfectants") and let sit on the surfaces for 10 minutes. Wipe off any excess. If using rubber-tipped forceps to grasp the animals, disinfect prior to each use. Soiled cages, cage card holders, soiled wire tops and filter tops are placed on a designated dirty cart. Soiled water bottles (if used) are placed in baskets on a dirty cart.
- 2) Clean, autoclaved supplies in sealed bags are placed in the hood. Open the bags of clean supplies in the hood.
- 3) Remove the dirty cage from the rack and place it next to clean supplies. Place the cage card (and holder, if changed) onto the clean cage, using caution not to touch the portion of the holder that resides within the cage.
- 4) Replace feeders and lids every two weeks. The clean cage is returned to the same position on the rack.
- 5) If the wire top and cage card holder were replaced, then the uneaten food from the dirty feeder and cage card holder are placed into the dirty cage which is then placed on the dirty supplies equipment cart. The dirty bottle is placed into the bottle basket on the dirty supply cart set aside for dirty water bottles. Disinfect your gloved fingers prior to pulling out the next clean, autoclaved cage (return to step 2).

- 6) Upon completion of the change-out procedure, wipe down the hood with appropriate disinfectant. Make sure to cover all dirty supplies and spray down cart with disinfectant prior to exiting the room.

OFFICE USE ONLY:

APPROVALS

Responsible Official Signature		Date	
<i>[Signature]</i>		7/5/17	
QA Signature		Date	
<i>[Signature]</i>		07/05/2017	
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