

Standard Operating Procedure

SOP Number: **02-18-4402**

Service: **Research**

Operating Section: **Husbandry**

Unit: **CMF**

Title: **General Husbandry for Mice in Individually Ventilated Cages**

Purpose:

To describe the minimum acceptable husbandry standards for mice housed in microisolator cages with ventilated cage racks.


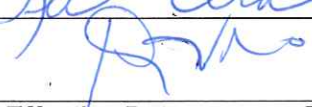
Procedure:

- 1) Enclosures
 - a) cage type: polymer caging
 - b) cage size: Lab Products 12.875" x 7.5" x 5.625", Allentown 15.01" x 7.63" x 5.13", Alternative Design 10.5" x 6.5" x 5"
 - c) cage occupancy: maximum of 4 mice; maximum of 2 adults with litter (under 28 days)
 - d) special caging: microisolator filter top
 - e) special equipment: filter (microisolator) tops with ventilated cage racks
- 2) Environment
 - a) Lighting is provided by overhead fluorescent fixtures on a 12/12 hr cycle.
 - b) Temperature will be maintained between 68-79°F (22-26°C). Relative humidity will be maintained between 30-70%.
 - c) Supplied air will be 100% fresh exchanged at a rate of 10-15 room changes per hour. Exhaust air will be exhausted to the exterior of the building (Allentown) or HEPA filtered exhaust system (Lab Products and Alternative Design).
- 3) Husbandry Services
 - a) feeding: *Ad libitum*
 - b) watering: Water bottles changed once a week. When in use, automatic watering pressure is monitored daily by checking the pressure gauge in the pressure reduction station. Drinking valves (lixits) are checked weekly at a minimum of one valve per row per rack, and sanitized and replaced monthly.
 - c) cage changes: Boxes are changed weekly or more often as needed as per SOP "Changing Animals within a Microisolator System."
 - d) rack changes: Racks are sanitized quarterly.
 - e) feeder changes: Feeders are changed every two weeks.
 - f) filter top changes: Microisolator tops are changed every two weeks.
- 4) Cleaning Patterns
 - a) Floors of rooms and adjacent corridors will be swept daily.
 - b) Floors of rooms and adjacent corridors will be sanitized with an appropriate disinfectant (see SOP "Preparation and Use of Disinfectants") at least twice weekly.

- c) Sinks are sanitized with an appropriate agent at least twice weekly.
 - d) Doors, door frames, and all other surfaces are sanitized weekly.
 - e) Rooms, including walls and ceilings, are sanitized monthly, as emptied of occupants, or more often as needed, using appropriate disinfectants (see SOP "Animal Room Sanitization").
 - f) Accidental spills and soiled wall surfaces will be cleaned as discovered or reported.
 - g) Unauthorized equipment left in animal or procedure rooms will be removed daily unless otherwise approved by the Operations Manager, CMF.
 - h) Brooms, dustpans, and garbage cans are sanitized weekly.
- 5) Maintenance/Repair
- a) All towel dispensers will be checked daily and replenished as necessary.
 - b) Trash containers will be checked daily and emptied as needed.
 - c) Room exhaust air filters are changed or cleaned monthly or more frequently if needed.
 - d) Light fixtures and tubes are checked daily. Any failures will be reported to the Operations Manager, CMF or designee who will then generate work orders for repair by Facilities personnel.
 - e) Rack pre-filters are checked daily and replaced monthly (see SOP "Maintenance of Ventilated Cage Racks") (Lab Products and Alternative Design).
 - f) Magnahelic gauge is checked daily for significant changes.
- 6) All animals are checked daily by the CMF staff. Any abnormalities are to be reported immediately to the veterinary staff via an animal observation form.
- 7) All husbandry practices will be documented on husbandry logs. This log will be maintained by the CMF staff responsible for the specified room. The log will be kept in/or adjacent to the room and submitted to the Operations Manager, CMF, upon completion of each month.

Comments:
None.

APPROVALS

Responsible Official Signature	Date		
	04/08/2019		
QA Signature	Date		
	04/08/2019		
Version #3	Effective Date	Supersedes #2	Original Date
			02/02/04