

**SEATTLE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH INSTITUTE
OPERATING POLICIES / PROCEDURES**

DEPARTMENT:	Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
POLICY NUMBER:	IACUC-033
REPLACES:	
EFFECTIVE DATE:	June 10, 2005
REVISION DATE:	April 06, 2011
POSTED FROM:	

TITLE: Program For Preventative Medicine

SUMMARY:

Disease prevention is an essential component of comprehensive veterinary medical care. Effective preventative medicine programs enhance the research value of animals by maintaining healthy animals, and minimizing non-protocol sources of variation associated with disease and unapparent infection. This program is overseen by an Attending Veterinarian (AV). It consists of a combination of policies and practices related to: quarantine and stabilization of animals, separation of animals by species, source, and health status. The program for preventative medicine also addresses surveillance, diagnosis, treatment, and control of disease.

DEFINITION:

Quarantine: The separation of newly received animals, from those already in the facility, until their health status has been determined.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

033-1 Quarantine, Stabilization and Separation of Animals

033-1.1 Quarantine

033-1.1.1 An effective quarantine minimizes the chance for introduction of pathogens into an established colony;

033-1.1.2 The Office of Animal Care (OAC) will conduct the initial review of health reports. Concerns are reviewed by the AV for determination of specific recommendations with regard to: a) length of quarantine, b) potential risks to personnel and

animals within the colony, c) any treatment/therapy required, and d) whether strain re-derivation, or embryo transfer are required to free the animals of specific pathogens;

033-1.1.3 When quarantine is indicated, animals from different shipments should be housed separately from one another.

033-2 Stabilization Period

033-2.1 All newly received animals will be given a three day acclimation period for physiologic and nutritional stabilization before use, and;

033-2.2 The length of acclimation will depend on: a) the type and duration of animal transportation, b) the species involved, and c) the intended use of the animals.

033-3 Separation of Animals

033-3.1 Physical separation of animals by species is required to prevent interspecies disease transmission, and to eliminate anxiety and possible physiological and behavioral changes due to interspecies conflict. This is accomplished by housing different species in separate rooms, and;

033-3.2 Intra-species separation might be necessary when animals obtained from multiple commercial and institutions differ in pathogen status. Necessity for intra-species separation will be determined by the OAC in consultation with the AV, based on review of relevant health reports prior to animal shipment.

033-4 Surveillance, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Control of Disease

033-4.1 Daily Observation and Reporting of Sick/Dead Animals

033-4.1.1 Animals will be observed by OAC staff at least once daily. Observations of illness, injury, or abnormal behavior are reported immediately. Certain animals may warrant increased frequency of health checks (i.e., ill animals, post-operative recovery etc.), and;

033-4.1.2 Unexpected deaths, signs of illness, distress, or other deviations from normal in animals are reported promptly by animal care staff to the investigative and vivarium management staff. This communication is to be both verbal and in writing using the Animal Health Report form to ensure timely veterinary care.

033-4.2 Diagnosis and Treatment of Disease

033-4.2.1 The choice of medication or therapy is determined through consultations of the OAC, the AV, and the investigator, and;

033-4.2.2 Animals that show signs of contagious disease are quarantined. If a group of animals has a known or suspected exposure to an infectious agent, the group of animals is maintained during the course of diagnosis, treatment, and control in accordance with specific directions provided by the AV.

033-4.3 Colony Disease Surveillance

033-4.3.1 Sub-clinical, microbial, and viral infections are monitored by quarterly serological (outside laboratory) and parasitology (in house) testing, and annual examinations also including: a) pathology, and b) bacteriology examinations of sentinel animals (outside laboratory), and;

033-4.3.2 Biological materials (i.e., transplantable tumors, hybridomas, cell lines etc.) can be a significant source of murine viruses. Mouse Antibody Production (MAP) test and Rat Antibody Production (RAP) test are effective for monitoring contaminations and are required prior to introducing such biological materials into rodents.

REFERENCES:

National Research Council, "The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals". National Academy Press; Washington DC. 1996.

Submitting Office: Office of Institutional Assurances

Approved by:

\\s\ Anne Clancy, IACUC Chairperson, 4/20/2011

\\s\ William R. Morton, VMD, Attending Veterinarian, 4/20/2011

\\s\ Mason Craig Bailey, Manager/Office of Animal Care, 4/19/2011