

CSU LAR Rodent Care Description

Husbandry

A. Animals:

Animals may be referred to in study documentation by either their common name, species, or study designated animal number.

- Common Name: Mouse/Rat
- Species: *Mus musculus/Rattus norvegicus*
- Health Status: Clean, not used on other studies
- Screening: Commercial vendor health status, quarantine and test

B. Source:

Rodents are purchased from an approved commercial vendor such as Charles River or Jackson Labs, unless a PI has a specific request for an alternate source.

C. Quarantine:

Upon the arrival of rodents to CSU LAR, no quarantine is necessary for commercially raised animals with a defined clean health status. If it is necessary to acquire rodents from a non-commercial source, those animals will be placed into quarantine for 6 weeks and undergo regular testing for pathogens and parasites by LAR Veterinary Technical Services group. Any abnormalities noted will be reported to the vendor, Attending Veterinarian, and the Study Director so that appropriate actions such as replacement or treatment, can occur.

D. Husbandry and Identification:

Upon the arrival of rodents to the CSU Laboratory Animal Resources Department, rodents are housed socially (2-5) in commercial caging system (Thoren IVC or static, or Techniplast IVC). Animals are checked daily, and provided ad libitum commercial irradiated rodent chow and water. Cages are filled with aspen chip or small corn cob bedding and autoclaved prior to use, and are changed every 7-14 days, depending on static vs IVC and/or study needs, as determined by the AV. Rodents are identified by individual cage card numbers, and sometimes will be given permanent identification such as ear tag or tail tattoo, based on study needs.

E. Diet:

Rodents are fed a commercial irradiated laboratory rodent chow (Teklad Global) daily, ad libitum.

F. Water:

Rodents are provided tap water filtered via reverse osmosis, *ad libitum*, in autoclaved water bottles. No contaminants are expected as this is a potable drinking water supplied by the city with the additional filtration method to purify it.

G. Fasting:

Feed is rarely withheld from rodents, but if approved per study will be no longer than 12 hours. Water will not be withheld prior to surgery.

H. Body Weights:

Individual body weights will be recorded prior to the procedure and at the time of euthanasia. Rodent weights will be used to calculate the amount of drugs to administer during anesthesia and to monitor their health through weight changes throughout the duration of the study.

I. Clinical Observations:

Clinical observations will be performed per CSU LAR Standard Operating Procedures. Clinical observations will include but are not limited to changes in: the skin and hair, eyes and mucous membranes, respiratory system, circulatory system, central nervous system, salivation, diarrhea, or lethargy. Rodents are observed daily during routine interactions (i.e. feeding, cage change). Only abnormal findings will be noted in the individual record during the study. Clinical observations made on rodents shall not be open ended or have gaps during the course of the study.

Any rodent found dead will be reported to LAR veterinarians and refrigerated and necropsied as soon as possible, within 24 hours after discovery per CSU Preclinical Surgical Research Laboratory and LAR Standard Operating Procedure. The time of death will be recorded as precisely as possible.

Any rodent, during the course of the study, that is determined to be no longer suitable for study, at the discretion of the facility Veterinarian in consultation with the Study Director and upon notification of the Sponsor, will be terminated. If the rodent is removed from the study for reasons deemed unrelated to the treatment, at the request and with the authorization of the Sponsor, the terminated animal may be replaced by a suitable replacement animal.