

COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
LABORATORY ANIMAL FACILITIES

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
for
QUARANTINE OF HAMSTERS, GUINEA PIGS, CHINCHILLAS

- 1.0 Purpose:
This procedure outlines the quarantine needs of hamsters, guinea pigs and chinchillas housed in the CMLAF.
- 2.0 Scope:
This procedure applies to all CMLAF and investigator personnel working with hamsters, guinea pigs and chinchillas.
- 3.0 Procedure:
 - 3.1 Hamsters, guinea pigs, and chinchillas are procured from approved, licensed dealers.
 - 3.2 All newly-arrived animals are examined upon arrival. Minor, non-infectious problems are treated.
 - 3.3 Sick animals will be rejected. Animals found to be suffering will be evaluated by the veterinarian, and will be treated immediately or euthanatized.
 - 3.4 All animals are observed daily, and any abnormalities observed are evaluated. Any animal which has symptoms of infectious disease will be euthanatized and replaced by the vendor.
 - 3.5 All animals are quarantined for seven (7) days for a chronic study with a minimum of 3 days for an acute study. Any animal showing any symptom of disease within the quarantine period is euthanatized.
 - 3.6 If any animal in a group of newly-arrived animals shows symptoms of disease during the quarantine period, the entire group may be quarantined for an additional period of time, at the discretion of the veterinarian.
 - 3.7 Euthanasia is performed with an overdose of anesthetic (sodium pentobarbital) or CO₂.
 - 3.8 All procedures must be documented.
 - 3.9 Acquisition of animals from non-approved sources or other institutions must be authorized by the veterinarian prior to the ordering of the animals.
 - A. Unexpected arrival of animals from non-approved vendors or other sources may result in special quarantine, isolation, or euthanasia.
 - B. Any costs associated with this must be paid by the Investigator.