

COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
LABORATORY ANIMAL FACILITIES

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
for
ANIMAL HEALTH MONITORING FOR RODENTS ACQUIRED FROM NON-
APPROVED SOURCES

1. Purpose:
The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to establish a system to screen rats, mice, or hamsters acquired from non-approved sources for bacterial and viral murine pathogens, and endo- and ecto- parasites while they are in quarantine.
2. Scope:
This procedure applies to all veterinary technicians involved in the sentinel program.
3. Procedure:
 - a. Procedures for approval and quarantine of rodents acquired from non-approved sources should be followed as outlined in SOP 1.A.9, “Acquisition of Rodents from Non-approved Sources”.
 - b. All rodents will be quarantined for a minimum period of 8 weeks.
 - c. Sentinel animals should be placed for each import as outlined in SOP 2.D.8 “Receipt and Quarantine of Sentinel Animals”. Sentinels will remain in place for a minimum of 6 weeks.
 - d. All rodent imports will be tested **directly** for endoparasites (pinworms) and ectoparasites (furmites).
 - i. Each imported rodent will receive pelage and anal scotch tape tests and have feces collected for fecal flotation.
 - ii. These tests will be performed upon arrival, and then every 2 weeks for the duration of quarantine (total of 4 sets of tests).
 - iii. Tape tests and fecal samples will be collected by the Laboratory Animal Caretaker in quarantine and submitted to the Veterinary technician.
 - e. Rodent imports destined to be housed in the conventional facility:
 - i. Sentinel animals should remain in the quarantine room and be exposed to dirty bedding from the quarantined animals for 6 weeks as outlined in SOP 2.D.3, “Animal Health Monitoring Program Conventional Facility”.
 - ii. After 6 weeks sentinels should be sacrificed and processed as per SOP 2.D.3. Sentinels should have comprehensive (Bioreliance Level II Profile) serology performed:
 1. Rats: CAR Bacillus, KRV (Kilham rat virus), H-1 Virus, Mycoplasma pulmonis, Rat parvovirus, PVM (Pneumonia virus or mice), SDA (Sialodacryoadenitis virus), Sendai

virus, LCM (Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus), and Reovirus.

2. Mice: MVM (Minute virus of mice), MHV (Mouse hepatitis virus), Mycoplasma pulmonis, MPV (Mouse parvovirus), PVM, Sendai virus, GD-VII (Encephalomyelitis virus), EDIM (Epizootic diarrhea of infant mice), LCM, CAR Bacillus, Ectromelia virus, Mad-FL and Mad-87 (Mouse adenovirus), MCMV (Mouse cytomegalovirus), Polyoma virus, and Reovirus.
 3. Hamsters: LCM, PVM, Reovirus, Sendai virus, and SV5.
 4. Sentinels should be examined for pinworms and furmites as outlined in SOP 2.D.3.
 5. Sentinels should have gross postmortem performed as outlined in SOP 2.D.3.
- f. Mice destined to be housed in the SPF Barrier facility:
- i. Sentinels should be placed and receive all health monitoring testing as outlined above in section c.ii for the conventional facility.
 - ii. Additionally, mice should be tested for Helicobacter as outlined in SOP 2.D.6, “Animal Health Monitoring Program SPF Barrier Facility”. Fecal pellets for helicobacter testing should be collected directly from quarantined animals, instead of sentinel animals.
- g. Rodent imports originating from outside of the United States:
- i. In addition to the sentinel health testing outlined above, international imports must have serology for Hantaviruses (Bioreliance Hantavirus profile) performed.
- h. Rodent imports with specific health concerns:
- i. Additional testing of the sentinels or quarantine animals may be required by the Veterinarian if specific health concerns are present in the exporting facility.
- i. Approval to leave quarantine:
- i. The Veterinary technician will submit sentinel health reports to the Veterinarian when sentinel health testing is complete.
 - ii. The Veterinarian will evaluate the results and notify the Principal Investigator, Facility Manager, and Import/Export Manager if the animals are approved to leave quarantine.