



## Animal Facility SOP 29.2 Rodent Quarantine

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### I. Purpose

Describes procedures for housing and testing animals from other institutions prior to their release to investigators

### II. Procedures

- All rodents from other institutions (other than from Charles River Laboratories and Jackson Laboratories) must be quarantined and tested to ensure that pathogens are not introduced to the rodent colonies. **All quarantined animals are fed a diet containing fenbendazole to eliminate pinworms, and treated with topical selamectin to kill fur mites because these parasites are frequently underdiagnosed.**
- The veterinarian will assign a risk status to incoming animals based on the shipping institution's disease surveillance history and barrier practices. This risk status assessment will dictate length of time in quarantine and surveillance testing methods utilized.
  - **For high-risk quarantine**, Two clean female sentinel animals are exposed to animals in each incoming shipment by direct contact and soiled bedding for the first 6 weeks. After 6 weeks exposure, the sentinels are submitted for testing for rodent viral, bacterial and parasitic diseases. Additionally, samples collected from incoming mice (feces, oral swabs, and pelt swabs) are tested for infectious agents via a PCR detection panel. Upon request of the veterinarian, blood may also be collected for a serology panel. Pending negative results, animals will be released from quarantine within **10** weeks of arrival.
  - **For low-risk quarantine**, samples collected from incoming mice (feces and pelt swabs) are tested for infectious agents via a PCR detection panel. Pending negative results, animals will be released from quarantine within 4 weeks of arrival.

- **Immune-deficient animals may be tested by PCR for a wider panel of infectious agents including common opportunists**
- Investigators will be notified by email when animals arrive, if there are health issues detected during quarantine, and on release from quarantine.
- Fees for quarantine are based on administrative and technical time plus diagnostic tests. Animals in high risk or immune deficient animals thus have higher quarantine costs.

## FEES

- Fees for quarantine vary depending on the number of animals and the testing panel required. Please contact us for further information. They reflect the actual cost of testing plus technical time to collect and process samples.
- Prices are based on groups of up to 10 cages. Prices will increase with each increment of every 10 cages.

## ACCESS

- Access to quarantine is restricted to animal facility staff and the veterinarian. Procedures such as breeding may be available on request on a fee for service basis. A request for these services must be made to the facility manager after the animals have arrived. You will then be sent a quarantine service request form which may be used to request these specific services. You will then be notified when they have been completed.