1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the procedure and frequency for marmoset cage changing.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Animal Care Staff.

3. MATERIALS

3.1. Nest/transfer box
3.2. Care cover
3.3. Clean cage

4. PROCEDURES

4.1. Every two weeks change cages using one (or a combination) of the following methods:

4.1.1. Herd the marmosets directly into the clean cage:

4.1.1.1. Best performed just before the afternoon feeding. Place the bowl of food and fruit in the clean cage.
4.1.1.2. Place the clean cage face to face with the soiled cage.
4.1.1.3. Open the small openings on the front of both cages.
4.1.1.4. Marmosets will transfer to clean cage on their own.
4.1.1.5. Clean the soiled cage thoroughly by hosing down and removing debris.
4.1.1.6. Spray with disinfectant and let drip.
4.1.1.7. Cover the cage before wheeling directly to the cage wash area.

4.1.2. Herd the marmosets into their nest/transfer box.

4.1.2.1. Gently herd the animals towards the nest box or manually restrain them and place them in the nest box.
4.1.2.2. Close the box and remove from the cage.
4.1.2.3. Clean the cage thoroughly by hosing down and removing debris.
4.1.2.4. Spray with disinfectant and let drip.
4.1.2.5. Cover the cage before wheeling directly to the cage wash area.
4.1.2.6. Bring in a clean cage and transfer the marmosets.
4.1.2.7. Replace the nest/transfer box with a clean one.

4.2. Identify the clean cage with a cleaning due date (two weeks later).

4.3. Complete the room log.