1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the transportation of non-human primates to an imaging facility.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Principal investigator (PI) and their research staff, veterinary care staff.

3. MATERIALS

3.1. Anesthetic drugs, needles and syringes
3.2. Transport cage of the following specifications:
   3.2.1. Made of sturdy material with a secured door to prevent escapes
   3.2.2. With a tray and/or containing body fluids and dejections
3.3. Climate-controlled transport vehicle
3.4. Opaque drape or bag to cover the transport enclosure
3.5. Disinfectant (e.g., Accel® spray)
3.6. Material to cover surfaces (e.g., drapes, plastic sheet and bag, absorbent pads)
3.7. Personal protective equipment (PPE):
   3.7.1. N95 mask
   3.7.2. Gloves
   3.7.3. Lab coat or gown
   3.7.4. Goggles/face shield
3.8. Pulse oxymeter
3.9. Plastic waste disposal bag

4. PROCEDURES

4.2. The presence of a veterinary technician is required to ensure that proper anesthesia and monitoring are provided and that biosafety measures are applied for disease prevention particularly in human clinical areas.
4.3. It is strongly recommended that two people accompany the animals or, if there is only one person present during transport and imaging, that a contingency plan be established in case of transportation issues.
4.4. Sedate animal as per SOP 115 - NHP Anesthesia.
4.5. Place the animal in the transport cage and secure door.
4.6. Cover the transport cage with an opaque material.
4.7. Use service elevator and corridors as much as possible, while reducing the transit time to a minimum.
4.8. Working in the imaging area:
   4.8.1. Cover all surfaces that will be in direct contact with the animal with absorbent, water-resistant material.
   4.8.2. Limit the presence of individuals to the minimum necessary.
   4.8.3. Only trained personnel can handle the animal.
   4.8.4. People who will remain in proximity with the animal must wear an N95 mask, goggles or face shield, dedicated gown or lab coat, and gloves.
4.9. Check that the animal is still sedated before opening the cage. Re-administer drugs if necessary.

4.10. Place the animal on the covered imager bed and position for scanning.

4.11. Monitor the anesthesia plan with a pulse oxymeter and by checking reflexes.

4.12. Once imaging is complete, replace the animal in the transport cage, secure it and cover.

4.13. Remove the absorbent material covering the equipment and place it in a plastic waste disposal bag.

4.14. Spray the surface of the imaging equipment with disinfectant. Allow for adequate contact time (according to manufacturer’s recommendations) and wipe clean.

4.15. Dispose of all the waste and PPE in the plastic bag. Bring it back with the animal for disposal in the animal facility.

4.16. Return the animal to its housing cage promptly. Monitor until fully recovered from anesthesia.