

**1. PURPOSE**

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This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the procedures for routine care and husbandry of common marmosets (*Callithrix jacchus*).

**2. RESPONSIBILITY**

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Animal care staff.

**3. MATERIALS**

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- 3.1. Cage cards
- 3.2. Personal protective equipment:
  - 3.2.1. Shoe covers
  - 3.2.2. Laboratory gown
  - 3.2.3. Hair bonnet
  - 3.2.4. Fit-tested N95 Respirator
  - 3.2.5. 2 pairs of examination-grade gloves
  - 3.2.6. Disposable face shield
  - 3.2.7. Puncture resistant gloves (optional)
- 3.3. Diet:
  - 3.3.1. Marmoset diet
  - 3.3.2. Fresh fruits, nuts, seeds, dried fruits, etc.
- 3.4. Clean water bottles
- 3.5. Clean environmental enrichment devices
- 3.6. Hardwood shavings
- 3.7. Disinfectant solution

**4. PROCEDURES**

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- 4.1. Observation of animals and environment.
  - 4.1.1. Observe all animals daily for illness, injury, general condition, and abnormal behavior. Report any health or behavioral abnormalities to veterinary care staff.
  - 4.1.2. Observe environmental conditions at room and caging level (temperature, humidity, light, noise, hazard). Report any abnormal environmental conditions to the supervisor.
  - 4.1.3. Animals found dead are to be reported to veterinary care staff. Carcasses should be removed from the enclosure promptly, identified, and placed in the refrigerator.
  - 4.1.4. Maintain a daily log of observations, environmental parameters, husbandry and maintenance procedures.
- 4.2. Emergency and holiday care.
  - 4.2.1. Provide routine care and husbandry for marmosets on weekends and holidays.
- 4.3. Animal identification methods:
  - 4.3.1. Identify all cages with a cage card. Include, at a minimum, the following information:
    - 4.3.1.1. Investigator

- 4.3.1.2. Protocol number
- 4.3.1.3. Species
- 4.3.1.4. Sex
- 4.3.2. Individual animals may be identified using various methods such as tattoos, micro-chips, tags, and collars.
- 4.4. Food and water.
  - 4.4.1. Feed animals twice daily as per Marmoset Feeding SOP.
  - 4.4.2. Verify water levels twice daily; refill bottles as needed. Change water bottles twice per week.
- 4.5. Social and environmental enrichment.
  - 4.5.1. All animals should be group-housed unless approved in the Animal Use Protocol.
  - 4.5.2. Provide environmental enrichment devices for all marmosets, refer to the Environmental Enrichment Program for NHPs SOP.
- 4.6. Quarantine procedures.
  - 4.6.1. Refer to Non-Human Primate Quarantine SOP.
- 4.7. Environmental control.
  - 4.7.1. Maintain room temperatures at approximately 25°C, +/- 2°C.
  - 4.7.2. Maintain relative humidity between 30% and 70%.
- 4.8. Lighting.
  - 4.8.1. Provide a regular diurnal lighting cycle, set the lighting to turn on at 7:00am and turn off at 7:00pm.
  - 4.8.2. Check the timer accuracy routinely.
- 4.9. Cleaning and sanitation of caging.
  - 4.9.1. Enclosures are changed every 4 weeks.
  - 4.9.2. Refer to the Marmoset Cage Changing SOP.
- 4.10. Sanitation of marmoset holding room.
  - 4.10.1. Clean according to Marmoset Room Sanitation SOP
- 4.11. Transportation:
  - 4.11.1. Transport animals as per Transportation of NHPs Between Facilities SOP.
- 4.12. Waste Management.
  - 4.12.1. Deposit non-regulated or non-infectious biological waste and soiled materials in dumpsters.
  - 4.12.2. Regulated or infectious biological waste is processed by McGill University's Waste Management program.

## 5. SAFETY

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- 5.1. Always wear appropriate PPE.
- 5.2. Observe Animal-Related Injury SOP.
- 5.3. Preparation of disinfecting solution.
  - 5.3.1. Wear personal protective equipment as directed by the manufacturer when preparing and using disinfectant solution.
  - 5.3.2. Use metering tool to dilute disinfectant according to manufacturer's recommendation.
  - 5.3.3. Clean surfaces prior to disinfection to remove any organic material.
  - 5.3.4. Apply disinfectant and allow for adequate contact time.