

1. PURPOSE

The intent of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to describe limitations to keeping animals for extended periods of time.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Facility Animal Care Committees (FACCs), principal investigators (PIs) and their research staff, veterinarian, veterinary and animal care staff.

3. PROCEDURES

3.1. Protocol review by FACC:

3.1.1. When reviewing an Animal Use Protocol (AUP), the FACC evaluates the procurement and disposition of animals and the duration of the experiment, and determines if animals can be transferred from, or to, another protocol, or maintained within the current protocol or experiment for the specified duration based on:

3.1.1.1. Procedures conducted or to be performed

3.1.1.2. Input from the facility veterinarian

3.1.1.3. Animal Welfare Assessment performed by veterinary care staff, refer to Animal Welfare Assessment SOP

3.1.1.4. Cumulative endpoints, refer to Cumulative Endpoints SOP.

3.1.1.5. Guidelines presented in this policy

3.2. Inactive animals:

3.2.1. Definition: animals that have been received but are not yet being used for research or teaching; animals in-between experimentations or teaching.

3.2.2. Limitation (unless specified and approved in the AUP or SOP):

3.2.2.1. Rodents: 3 months

3.2.2.2. Birds: 3 months

3.2.2.3. Rabbits: 3 months in a pen

3.2.2.4. Cats: 6 months

3.2.2.5. NHPs: 6 months

3.2.3. Exclusion: animals held for aging or during quarantine period.

3.2.4. Prolongation: a prolongation of housing can be granted by the facility veterinarian upon appropriate justification by the PI.

3.3. Active animals (unless specified and approved in the AUP or SOP):

3.3.1. Definition: animals that are under experimentation or used for teaching.

3.3.2. Limitation:

3.3.2.1. Rodents: 18 months

3.3.2.2. Rabbits: 12 months

3.3.2.3. Birds: 5 years

3.3.2.4. Cats: 5 years

3.3.2.5. NHPs: 5 years

- 3.3.1. Breeders are kept for the duration of their respective fertile period as described in the approved AUP.
- 3.3.2. Prolongation: a prolongation of housing can be granted by the facility veterinarian upon appropriate justification by the PI.
- 3.4. Animals participating to successive experiments or protocols:
 - 3.4.1. Definition: animals undergoing successive experiments or protocols after holding period.
 - 3.4.2. Procedure: The facility veterinarian, in consultation with the PI, will assess the condition of the animal and based on previous experiment(s) or protocol(s), will determine if it can be subjected to the proposed experiment or protocol. The veterinarian will determine the frequency of the next evaluations based on the age, or the physical and behavioral condition of the animal (e.g., aging animals may require more frequent evaluations).
- 3.5. Documentation:
 - 3.5.1. Document successive experiments or protocols in the medical record.
 - 3.5.2. Document veterinary evaluation and recommendation in the medical record.

SOP REVISION HISTORY

DATE	NEW VERSION
2019.11.24	3.1.1.3. Animal Welfare Assessment performed by veterinary care staff, refer to Animal Welfare Assessment SOP
2023.03.22	2. RESPONSIBILITY Facility Animal Care Committees (FACCs), principal investigators (PIs) and their research staff, veterinarian , veterinary and animal care staff.
2023.03.22	3.1.1.4. Cumulative endpoints, refer to Cumulative Endpoints SOP.
2023.03.22	3.2.2.1. Rodents: 4 3 months 3.2.2.2. Dogs: 1 month Birds: 3 months 3.2.2.3. Rabbits: 3 months in a pen, 1 month in a cage 3.2.2.4. Cats: 6 months 3.2.2.5. NHPs: 6 months
2023.03.22	3.3.2.1. Rodents: 10 18 months 3.3.2.2. Rabbits: 9 12 months 3.3.2.3. Dogs: 12 months Birds: 5 years 3.2.2.4. Cats: 6 months 3.3.2.5. NHPs: 2 5 years
2023.07.04	3.1.1. When reviewing an Animal Use Protocol (AUP), the FACC evaluates the procurement and disposition of animals and the duration of the experiment, and determines if animals can be transferred from, or to, another protocol, or kept on or maintained within the current protocol or experiment for the specified duration based on:
2023.07.06	3.5. Animals participating to successive experiments or protocols: 3.5.1. Definition: animals undergoing successive experiments or protocols after holding period.
2023.07.06	3.5.2. Procedure: The facility veterinarian, in consultation with the PI, will assess the condition of the animal and based on previous experiment(s) or protocol(s), will determine if it can be subjected to the proposed experiment or protocol. The veterinarian will determine the frequency of the next evaluations based on the age, or the physical and behavioral condition of the animal (e.g., aging animals may require more frequent evaluations).
2023.07.06	3.6.1. Document successive experiments or protocols in the medical record.