1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the procedures necessary for breeding and conditioning of cats originating from the CMARC in-house breeding colony prior to use by the Principal Investigator (PI).

2. RESPONSIBILITY

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

3. MATERIALS

3.1. Identification tools: collars, microchips and microchip reader
3.2. Blood collection materials
3.3. Fecal collection containers
3.4. Modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia and Chlamydia (FVRCP+C)
3.5. Killed Rabies vaccine
3.6. Development Feline Diet, dry and canned
3.7. Feline Adult Maintenance Diet, dry and canned

4. PROCEDURES

4.1. If new cats are procured for breeding from an external supplier, treat them according to the Cat Conditioning Program SOP.
4.2. Prior to introducing breeder animals into the colony housing room:
   4.2.1. Collect fresh fecal sample for parasitology.
   4.2.2. Collect blood for serology for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) and Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV).
4.3. Female breeders are fed with a dry development feline diet. Males are fed with a dry maintenance diet.
4.4. All animals are observed at least once a week by the veterinary care staff. Any abnormal findings are reported to the veterinarian.
4.5. Breeders are selected for their general health and docile behavior.
4.6. Once the breeding pair is selected and the female shows signs of estrus (heat), place together in an enclosure until breeding is accomplished.
4.7. Separate the female and when pregnancy is confirmed, furnish the enclosure for the birth.
4.8. When the kittens are born:
   4.8.1. Record the date of birth.
   4.8.2. Prepare a medical record sheet for each kitten. If necessary, identify the kittens with collars or microchips.
4.9. When the kittens are 1 week of age:
   4.9.1. Perform a general observation
   4.9.2. Record body weight.
4.10. When the kittens are 2 weeks of age:
   4.10.1. Perform a general observation
   4.10.2. Record body weight.
   4.10.3. Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia and Chlamydia
4.11. When the kittens are 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 weeks of age:
   4.11.1. Perform a general observation.
   4.11.2. Record body weight.
   4.11.3. Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia and Chlamydia.

4.12. When the kittens are 14 weeks of age:
   4.12.1. Wean the kittens by sex.
   4.12.2. Prepare an identification card with an individual photo.

4.13. When the kittens are 16 weeks of age:
   4.13.1. Perform a physical exam.
   4.13.3. Vaccinate with a killed Rabies vaccine.

4.14. When the kittens are 5 months of age:

4.15. For all breeders and kittens over 4 months of age:
   4.15.1. Perform a physical exam, once per month.
   4.15.2. Record body weight, once per month.
   4.15.3. Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia, once every 3 years (excluding pregnant females).
   4.15.4. Vaccinate with a killed rabies vaccine, once every 3 years (excluding pregnant females).

4.16. Retire breeders after 3 years of service or after females have had 5 litters.

4.17. Transfer:
   4.17.1. Perform a complete physical exam to determine whether or not the cat can be released for use by the PI according to the protocol.
   4.17.2. The animal is transferred to the PIs Animal Use Protocol.

4.18. Transport:
   4.18.1. Perform a complete physical exam to determine whether or not the cat can be released for use by the PI according to the protocol.
   4.18.2. The cat is weighed and the body weight is recorded on the identification card.
   4.18.3. Sedate according to the PIs protocol.
   4.18.4. Animal is placed in the transport carrier and the identification card is affixed to the carrier.
   4.18.5. Transport of the animal is completed as per Animal Transport and Use Outside of Animal Facilities SOP.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROCEDURE FOR KITTENS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 1</td>
<td>• Open file</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 week</td>
<td>• General observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Body weight</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>• General observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Body weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Vaccine #1 FVRCP+C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 weeks</td>
<td>• General observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Body weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Vaccine #2 FVRCP+C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 weeks</td>
<td>• General observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Body weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Vaccine #3 FVRCP+C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 weeks</td>
<td>• General observation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Body weight</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Vaccine #4 FVRCP+C</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Body weight</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Vaccine #5 FVRCP+C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 weeks</td>
<td>• General observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Body weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Vaccine #6 FVRCP+C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 weeks</td>
<td>• General observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Body weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Wean the kittens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 weeks</td>
<td>• General observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Body weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Rabies Vaccine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;16 weeks</td>
<td>• Monthly general observation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Monthly body weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Yearly FVRCP+C Vaccine (excluding pregnant females)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Yearly Rabies Vaccine (excluding pregnant females)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SOP REVISION HISTORY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PREVIOUS VERSION</th>
<th>NEW VERSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017.08.30</td>
<td>4.15.3 Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia, once a year (excluding pregnant females).</td>
<td>4.15.3 Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia, once every 3 years (excluding pregnant females).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017.08.30</td>
<td>4.15.4 Vaccinate with a killed rabies vaccine, once per year (excluding pregnant females).</td>
<td>4.15.4 Vaccinate with a killed rabies vaccine, once every 3 years (excluding pregnant females).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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