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**1. PURPOSE**

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The intent of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to describe the quarantine program for laboratory finches in order to prevent the introduction of avian pathogens and zoonotic diseases into established colonies.

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**2. RESPONSIBILITY**

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Veterinarian, veterinary care staff, principal investigator (PI) and their staff.

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**3. PROCEDURES**

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- 3.1. When animals are requested from a vendor or non-commercial source, the veterinarian:
  - 3.1.1. Evaluates the health status information provided by the vendor.
  - 3.1.2. Determines the tests required.
  - 3.1.3. Notifies the PI of the entry requirements.
- 3.2. Quarantine Housing and Husbandry:
  - 3.2.1. Select a room isolated from the main housing area.
  - 3.2.2. Ensure negative airflow.
  - 3.2.3. Access the quarantine area last in the workday.
  - 3.2.1. Operate quarantine facilities as per Finch Husbandry SOP.
- 3.3. Quarantine Access:
  - 3.3.1. Only essential personnel have access to quarantine rooms.
  - 3.3.2. Do not transfer birds out of quarantine before the end of the designated quarantine period unless the transfer was approved by a veterinarian.
- 3.4. Breeding Birds in Quarantine:
  - 3.4.1. Allow limited breeding during quarantine only if it has been approved by a veterinarian.
- 3.5. Observation and Special Care:
  - 3.5.1. Observe animals at least once daily.
  - 3.5.2. Report animals with clinical signs to the veterinarian.
  - 3.5.3. If deaths occur, store the carcasses in the designated refrigerator and inform veterinarian.
  - 3.5.4. For unexplained morbidity/mortality perform gross necropsy and collect tissues for histopathology if necessary.
- 3.6. Testing:
  - 3.6.1. Collect samples as described in the Finch Health Monitoring SOP, or as per laboratory instructions.
  - 3.6.2. Submit samples for testing of the following:
    - 3.6.2.1. Avian Circovirus
    - 3.6.2.2. Polyoma virus
    - 3.6.2.3. Chlamydia psittaci
    - 3.6.2.4. Mycobacterium avium
    - 3.6.2.5. Campylobacter spp.
    - 3.6.2.6. Salmonella spp.

- 3.6.2.7. *Escherichia coli*
- 3.6.2.8. *Yersinia enterocolitica/pseudotuberculosis*
- 3.6.2.9. Internal parasites
- 3.6.2.10. External parasites
- 3.6.2.11. *Macrorhabdus ornithogaster*

3.6.3. Additional diagnostic tests can be requested by the veterinarian.

3.7. Preventative antiparasitic or other treatments will be administered as requested by the veterinarian.

3.8. Outcome and follow up:

3.8.1. The veterinarian interprets the test results and must approve the release of animals from quarantine.