

Bringing Rodents into Emory University

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I get mice/rats sent to Emory from another institution?

All rodents coming from other institutions must be quarantined before they enter a regular rodent holding room at Emory University.

Where will the animals be quarantined?

Depending on the health status of the shipping institution, animals from non-commercial sources will be quarantined at either Emory University, Division of Animal Resources Quarantine or the Charles River Laboratories in Wilmington, Massachusetts.

What forms do I need to fill out to begin the process?

To have mice/rats shipped to quarantine, please complete the **Rodent Shipment To Emory University** form (DAR A-3) and return it to Carol Westbury , Quarantine Manager, either by fax at 404-727-3253 or by e-mail at cwestbu@dar.emory.edu. The form must be filled out completely to avoid delays in the process. Upon receipt of the completed form, DAR will contact the shipping institution for a health report and a determination will be made as to which location the animals will be quarantined.

What if I want to have embryos sent to Emory?

If the shipping institution is able to ship frozen embryos to Emory, please contact Dr. David Martin in the Transgenic Core Lab. Embryo transfer can be performed at Emory as an alternative to sending adult mice through the quarantine process. Please click on <http://corelabs.emory.edu/tmf/> for pricing and testing information.

Who arranges for the rodents to be shipped from the other institutions?

Once it has been determined where the animals will be quarantined, either DAR will contact Charles River and Charles River will then make all of the necessary arrangements for the shipment, or the Division of Animal Resources Quarantine Manager will contact the shipping institution to arrange for the shipping of the mice.

Due to the constraints from shipping institutions, it can take one week to several months for the mice to arrive in quarantine. Please plan ahead for delays in shipments coming from other countries due to customs.

What is the length of time for quarantine?

The minimum time a shipment is quarantined is 9-10 weeks. This could be extended due to a variety of reasons including, but not limited to, health status issues or breeding issues.

What is the testing protocol while the animals are in quarantine?

The quarantined animals undergo a rigorous testing protocol involving a contact sentinel for each cage and regular ecto and endo-parasitology during their stay. The contact sentinels will be maintained for a minimum of 6-7 weeks and then will be sent to necropsy for complete endo and ecto-parasitology, a serology assessment, a MPV PCR, and a naso-pharyngeal wash for *M. pulmonis*. In addition, all quarantined animals will be fed a fenbendazol diet for the entirety of their stay as well as treated for fur mites.

What is the cost involved with quarantine?

The cost of quarantine is dependant on the number of mice being housed and whether or not they are being bred while there. Also, if any animals test positive while in quarantine, the costs and the length of time will be increased. For a breakdown of quarantine costs click on the following link: (insert link).

Can I breed my animals while they are in quarantine?

Yes, your rodents may start breeding while they are in quarantine. The appropriate breeding scheme is part of the **Rodent Shipment to Emory University** form. In addition, if breeding your mice is a service you wish to participate in, please fill out the **Quarantine Breeding Contract** and forward it to the Quarantine Manager, as well. If your mice will be entering the Managed Breeding Colony, with Minida Dowdy, upon release from Quarantine, this form will also be passed along to her at that time.

Can I have my animals genotyped while they are in quarantine?

Yes, you can have your rodents genotyped while they are in quarantine, whether they are being housed at Emory University or Charles River Laboratories. Upon request, tissue samples will be supplied to your lab for genotyping. All costs involved with this service are on the attached form.

What if I want to breed my rodents here at Emory with those in quarantine?

Animals being housed in a “clean” DAR holding room may be brought in to be bred to your Emory quarantined rodents.

If your animals are quarantined at Charles River, DAR can ship rodents from Emory to CRL to be bred with quarantined shipments. Please fill out the **Animal Shipment/Transfer Form** and send it to Karen Lieber, klieber@dar.emory.edu. The animals will be scheduled to arrive at CRL the same week the quarantined animals arrive. There is a fee involved with the shipment which includes the shipping crates, technician time, and the courier fee.

If my animals are at Charles River, once they have been released from quarantine, what is the procedure to have them sent to Emory?

After completion of the quarantine time period, CRL will contact DAR for approval to receive the mice. Once the shipment is approved, DAR will e-mail the contact person, at Emory, informing them to place an order for the rodents. Animal orders must be placed in order for the shipment to occur between Emory and CRL. Please complete the **DAR Animal Order** form and fax to 404-727-8762.

If my animals are quarantined at Emory University, what is the release procedure?

After all quarantined animal and sentinel health testing documentation has been received by the quarantine manager; the case will be discussed with an Emory veterinarian. At this time, the veterinarian will sign off permitting the animals to be released. The investigator will be notified as to the status and the animals will then be transferred to their specified colony at Emory University.

For all other questions, please contact:

Carol Westbury, Quarantine Manager

Phone: 404-727-1269

e-mail: cwestbu@dar.emory.edu