

Standard Operating Procedure

Subject: Animal Husbandry Biosafety Level II Practices

DAR SOP: 400-3

- A. These husbandry practices are to be followed when animals are infected with agents categorized in biosafety level II (CDC-NIH).
- B. Standard Practices
1. Doors to animal rooms must be kept closed.
 2. Work surfaces must be decontaminated after use or after spills of viable materials.
 3. Eating, drinking, and smoking are not permitted.
 4. Personnel must wash their hands before leaving the animal room.
 5. All procedures must be carefully performed to minimize the creation of aerosols.
- C. Special Practices
1. All cages must be decontaminated, preferably by autoclaving, before they are cleaned and washed.
 2. Contaminated materials must be placed in a durable, leakproof container before being removed from the room.
 3. Gowns must be worn over street clothes or uniforms while in the animal room. This protective clothing must be removed and left in the animal facility or placed in a dirty gown collection barrel upon leaving the room.
 4. Access to the animal room is limited to personnel who have been advised of the potential hazard, meet the specific requirements for entry, and who need to enter the room for program or service purposes. In general, persons who may be at increased risk of acquiring infection or for whom infection might be unusually hazardous (e.g., children, immunosuppressed individuals) are not allowed in the animal room.
 8. A hazard warning sign, incorporating the universal biohazard symbol, must be posted on the access door to the animal room. The sign must identify the infectious agent, list the name and telephone number of the DAR Director and other responsible person(s), and indicate the special requirement(s) for entering the room.
 9. Gloves must be worn when handling infected animals or infectious materials.
 10. All wastes from the animal room must be packaged for incineration or be decontaminated before disposal.
 11. Hypodermic needles and syringes must be used only for the parental injection or aspiration of fluids from laboratory animals and diaphragm bottles. Only needle-locking syringes or disposable needle syringe units (i.e., the needle is integral to the syringe) should be used for the injection or aspiration of infectious fluids. Needles should not be bent, sheared, replaced in the sheath or guard by hand, or removed from the syringe by hand following use. The needle and syringe should be promptly placed in a puncture-resistant container for incineration.

D. Containment Equipment:

Biological safety cabinets or other physical containment devices and personal protective devices (respirators, face shields, etc.) are to be used whenever procedures with a high potential for creating aerosols are conducted. These include necropsy of infected animals, harvesting of infected tissues or fluids from animals or eggs, intra-nasal inoculation of animals, and manipulations of high concentrations of large volumes of infectious materials.

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