

LABORATORY ANIMAL FACILITIES
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR
SANITATION OF RESEARCH LABORATORY EQUIPMENT USED WITH ANIMALS

- 1.0 Purpose
This procedure describes the requirement and procedures to clean and sanitize research equipment that is used with animals.
- 2.0 Scope
This procedure applies to all Faculty, students, and technicians who work with live animals in their labs or testing rooms.
- 2.0 Procedure
- 2.1 All equipment, transfer boxes, and holding/testing chambers used for animal research are required to be cleaned and sanitized on a routine basis.
- 2.2 It is recommended that all chambers be cleaned (the removal of gross material), at least daily while they are in use, and sanitized (the reduction of infectious material to an acceptable level), not less frequently than once per week while in use.
- 2.3 Sanitization methods must be validated annually with either chemical (ATP detection using swabs and luminometer) or microbiological testing (RODAC).
- 2.3.1 At least 1 testing chamber must be evaluated per room.
- 2.3.2 The surface where animals have direct contact should be tested.
- 2.3.3 LAF can perform RODAC testing and/or ATP detection testing at cost for investigators.
- 2.3.4 Using the AccuPoint® Luminometer, results of ATP detection are interpreted as follows (See SOP 4A37):
Pass: 0-299 RLU (Relative Light Units)
Fail: ≥ 300 RLU
- 2.3.5 Using RODAC plates, results of colony growth are interpreted as follows (See SOP 4A18):
Pass: 0-25 colonies per plate
Fail: 26-50+ colonies per plate
- 2.3.6 If values indicate failure of sanitation, review of methods, recleaning and retesting are required.
- 2.3.7 Test results must be available for review at IACUC Semi-Annual Inspections.
- 2.4 There are two methods that may be used to sanitize most lab equipment.
A. Use of LAF equipment: The LAF operates cage washing equipment at all facility locations that will effectively sanitize many plastic and/or stainless steel cages, carts or holders. The LAF offers this service free of charge for research animal related items to users of the facility.

- B. Chemical sanitation: There are several effective contact chemical sanitizing agents that may be used effectively to decontaminate items that are not able to withstand 180 degrees in the cagewasher, either because of size or the incompatibility of the material (eg. Mazes).
 - C. Chemical sanitation requires first a physical cleaning and then application of an agent to all surfaces that require sanitation. There are several products that may be used for sanitation depending on the characteristics of the surface to be sanitized. A few are listed below.
 - a. Dupont Relyon; available as either a liquid or as a wipe:
http://www2.dupont.com/RelyOn/en_US/index.html
 - b. MB-10 available in tablet form: http://quiplabs.com/product/mb-10-tablets/#.W0Ub_NJKhPY
 - c. Spor-Klenz a ready to use liquid:
<https://www.sterislifesciences.com/Products/Surface-Disinfectants/Sporicide-Cleaners-and-Sterilant/Spor-Klenz-Concentrate-Cold-Sterilant.aspx>
 - d. Coverage Gemicidal Wipes:
<https://search.sterislifesciences.com/searchresults.html?query=germicidal+wipes>
 - D. All of these products are available from Laboratory suppliers, such as Fisher, Scientific Products, VWR and others.
- 2.5 A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) must be retained for all chemical/reagents used in your lab.
- 2.6 If you have another product that you would like to use or you have material that cannot tolerate these products, please contact the LAF Facility Manager to discuss your specific situation.