



Animal Resource & UCAR E-Newsletter

OCTOBER 17, 2011

VOLUME FALL 2011

The University of Rochester is committed to maintaining the highest standards of care for animals used in research, education and training. Please follow the link for additional information about reporting animal welfare concerns and the responsibilities of the institution to respond to these concerns

(<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/ucar/animalconcerns.htm>).

Phone numbers to call:

Animal Resource: 5-2651/2653

UCAR: 5-1693

UCAR Hotline: 5-2055

URMC Integrity Hotline: 756-8888

UCAR News: Refresher Training

UCAR developed a "refresher" training course which is available in Blackboard. All Investigators, Staff and Students must complete the training if your original Animal Resource Orientation was dated before October 14, 2008.

Self-enroll into this course using the following URL:

http://bb.rochester.edu/enroll/user_enroll.cfm?enrollmentID=1emp

You will be prompted to provide your Blackboard username and password to enroll into the course. Once in Blackboard, the course will be available on the right-hand side of your "My URM" tab and on your "Courses" tab. Click on the course name to go into the course, and then follow the instructions within the course.*

If you do not complete the course, UCAR will request that your access to the vivarium and/or animal housing rooms will be removed for a fee determined by the gatekeeper. (\$52 to remove, \$52 to reactivate). If you have any questions, please contact UCAR at 5-1693.

Updated UCAR Policies:

UCAR recently updated two existing policies for clarification. UCAR Guidelines: Euthanasia for rodent embryos, fetuses and neonates. The clarification is that freezers cannot be used for hypothermia anesthesia. The American Veterinary Medical Association does not approve rapid freezing as a method of euthanasia.

The Toe Clipping policy was updated to add procedural detail. Please review this new policy if it pertains to your work. This policy is located in the UCAR Manual which can be found at <http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/ucar/policies/>.

KMRB Procedure Room Cabinets

New Summer 2011- Only Animal Resource issued locks may be used to secure cabinet doors. Please store all medical materials in compliance with UCAR Policy, entitled "Proper Preparation, Usage and Storage of Drugs and Medical Materials". Cabinets will be inspected during semiannual facility inspections and at any time.

MOVING ANIMALS – Cages of rodents can not be moved between animal rooms without submission of the [Animal Movement Proposal Form](#) and approval. This is not a new policy. **Please review the Vivarium Website for up-to-date information.**

Video equipment/cell phones with cameras are not permitted in the Vivarium. Contact the Animal Resource Office if you have questions regarding these policies.



UR Researchers Team Up with Seneca Park Zoo for Translational Research Projects - Cognitive Evolution in Primates

Assistant Professor Dr. Jessica Cantlon's Concepts, Actions, and Objects lab studies the origins and organization of conceptual knowledge concepts such as numbers, symbols, tools, faces and everyday objects through cognitive and neuroimaging studies of adults, children, and non-human primates. The research goal is to study the cognitive parallels between



humans and other primates. In addition to work with children and macaques at UR, Dr. Cantlon and her team are working to connect their assessments to primates around the world. By comparing the performance of olive baboons at Seneca Park Zoo on cognitive tasks (such as object performance, inhibitory control, and tool use) and ecological variables (such as group size, diet, and social structure), to that of dozens of other primates, the genetic and environmental influences on non-human primate cognition can be measured. "Children might be born with the same cognitive capacities as other primates but change radically as they learn human language and culture," says Allison Barnard, research associate, and these studies will help understand the precise causes of complex conceptual skills in animals and people.

Great Ape Healthy Heart Project

Like humans, great apes suffer from a high incidence of heart disease. The Great Ape Healthy Heart Project is a collaboration of zoos around the country to characterize cardiac function of great apes including orangutans, gorillas, and chimpanzees. This summer, Dr. Karl Schwarz, UR Cardiologist, joined with Dr. Jeff Wyatt, UR Chair of Comparative Medicine and the Zoo's Director of Animal Health and Conservation Science, to perform a transcutaneous ultrasound on Dara, the zoo's 11-year-old Bornean orangutan. Dr. Wyatt and Zoo staff provided anesthesia and support as Dr. Schwarz and his staff performed the echocardiogram. Dr. Schwarz pronounced Dara in excellent cardiac health and assessed some aspects of cardiac anatomy and function never before performed in orangutans. The examination will provide useful information for other institutions exhibiting orangutans as well as baseline data to monitor Dara's health over her 40-50 year lifespan.

Monitoring anesthetized animals

- Please be reminded that animals anesthetized for surgery and nonsurgical procedures (imaging, inoculation, etc) must not be left unattended until their righting reflex has returned and they are sternal with pink mucous membranes and stable respirations.



NEW RAT BLOOD SUBLINGUAL COLLECTION TECHNIQUE

At the recent AALAS meeting, one of the DLAM veterinary technicians learned a new way to collect blood from awake

rats. This technique is faster and less stressful than collecting blood from the jugular vein, so it would be considered a refinement in research methodology. As soon as all of the DLAM techs master this technique, they will offer to teach it to investigators and their staff.

Swipe Access to Vivarium housing rooms or Suites

A friendly reminder that your identification card should not be used to allow anyone entry to the vivarium, animal housing suites and animal housing rooms. The Vivarium is for authorized individuals only. This helps protect the health status of your valuable research animals.

Please don't allow someone to enter Vivarium areas on your "card swipe".

Rodent Isoflurane Anesthesia Machines in the KMRB

The Animal Resource Department is happy to announce that rodent Isoflurane anesthesia machines are now available in the KMRB for your research use! Specifically, the procedure rooms in suites B9816, B9836, B9846, B9856, and B9869 have been provided with this new equipment. Prior to use, a onetime only DLAM orientation is required for each person that will be using the equipment. Call the Animal Resource Office today to sign up for this training or for more information.

Contact us:

AR Office: 5-2651/2653

UCAR: 5-1693

We're on the Web!

<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/vivarium/>

<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/ucar/>