



# Animal Resource & UCAR E-Newsletter

JANUARY 23, 2013

VOLUME WINTER 2013

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:**

**URMC Integrity  
Hotline: 756-8888**

#### **Animal Resource:**

**5-2651/2653**

**UCAR: 5-1693**

**UCAR Hotline: 5-2055**

**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.**

## **UCAR And Animal Resource Office Relocation**

UCAR recently relocated to B-7621 (just off the yellow elevators). Stop and visit the new UCAR Office!

The Animal Resource Office will move into G-6708. On January 29, the AR office will be temporarily located in G-6707. The new office space will be open on January 30, 2013.

## **Storage of Rodent Diet Guidelines**

If you are storing an animal diet (standard or non standard) or food treats in your lab you must adhere to these guidelines. Food must be stored off the floor in air tight containers away from animal carcasses and chemicals. Food must be labeled with the name, manufacture date (mill date) and/or open date, and the expiration date. Diet cards are available in the Animal Resource Office for this purpose.

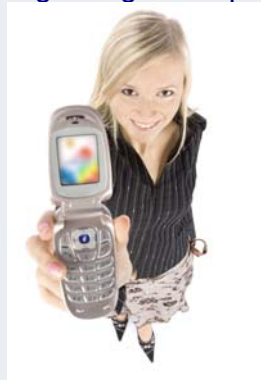
If the food item is a common human foodstuff, it must be labeled "not for human consumption". Bulk food items (sunflowers seeds, peanuts) should be labeled with a six month expiration date after purchase. Expired food items or items beyond the "best used by date" cannot be given to laboratory animals.

If you have any questions, please contact a DLAM veterinarian (5-2653).

## **Health Status of Rodent Rooms**

In an effort to protect the health status of valuable research mice, the Animal Resource recognizes certain parts of the UR vivaria to be "protected zones". That is, they are areas that afford the most protection to rodent colonies. After the foundation colonies, the protected zones are the KMRB, SMD S wing and CVRI one-way zone. Mice may be moved from one of these protected zones to another after being tested for ecto- and endoparasites. Mice housed in one-way MIT rooms outside of the protected zones are considered to be of lower health status, and cannot move to one of the protected zones without first undergoing quarantine.

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



BE GENTLE - POST-OP RODENT	
PI _____	ID# _____
Surgery _____	UCAR# _____
Analgesic Drug: _____	
Date Administered _____	
Date Administered _____	
Date Administered _____	
Date Administered _____	
Suture/Wound Clip Removal _____	

**KMRB PROCEDURE ROOM CABINETS** - 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.

**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.

To facilitate movement of your mice within the three protected zones, please write down cage locations when you submit a move form. This will allow the DLAM techs to perform parasite testing promptly.

## Management and Storage of Medical Materials

The use of expired pharmaceuticals, biologics and supplies is not consistent with acceptable veterinary practice or adequate veterinary care. Euthanasia, anesthesia and analgesia agents should not be used beyond their expiration date, even if used in a terminal procedure. The veterinarian and IACUC must maintain control over the use of expired medical materials in order to meet their responsibilities to avoid or minimize discomfort, pain or distress to animals. Please review the [Proper Preparation, Usage and Storage of Drugs and Medical Materials Policy](#).

## Post-operative Cage Cards for Rodents

UCAR Policy on Use of Analgesics, Tranquilizers & Anesthetics (green card), states that analgesics must be administered to all animals experiencing painful procedures unless scientific justification for withholding analgesics is included in the approved UCAR protocol. To facilitate the identification of post-op rodents requiring more careful handling and monitoring, place a "BE GENTLE- POST-OP RODENT" cage card on each animal's cage. Document all analgesic treatments on this cage card. Remove the card once analgesic treatment is completed and sutures have been removed. After this time, the cards may be maintained as part of your lab records. These special cage cards are available in the rodent rooms and in the Animal Resource office.

## 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".

## Facts from NIH

[FAQ #4](#) - May Investigators use non-pharmaceutical-grade compounds in animals?

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) agree that pharmaceutical-grade chemicals and other substances, when available, must be used to avoid toxicity or side effects that may threaten the health and welfare of vertebrate animals and/or interfere with the interpretation of research results.



### **CO<sub>2</sub> Euthanasia Reminder**

– **Remember** euthanasia is defined as a “good death” and the act of euthanasia is never complete until you are sure the animal will not recover. You must perform a secondary physical method so animals do not recover from euthanasia.

Do not leave animals unattended during euthanasia.

Do not leave sick, injured animals and/or nursing pups without dams in the KMRB Euthanasia Room. Please euthanize these animals in the procedure room in your assigned suite.

**UCAR going GREEN -**  
Modification to Add Staff  
Forms will be an online  
submission  
[www.urmc.rochester.edu/ucar/forms/](http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/ucar/forms/)

### **Has your contact information changed?**

Email  
[UCAR@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:UCAR@urmc.rochester.edu)  
to update your lab or  
emergency contact  
information.

However, it is frequently necessary to use investigational compounds, veterinarian- or pharmacy-compounded drugs, and / or Schedule I controlled substances to meet scientific and research goals

OLAW's guidance on the use of non-pharmaceutical-grade substances was first published in 2003 (Lab Animal. 2003; 32(9): 33-36) and posted on the OLAW website on September 11, 2006. The USDA's position on non-pharmaceutical-grade substances may be found in the [Animal Care Manual Policy 3](#). On March 1, 2012, OLAW, with USDA and AAALAC, offered additional guidance through a webinar on the [“Use of Non-Pharmaceutical-Grade Chemicals and Other Compounds in Research with Animals”](#).

Please review the recently adopted policy [“Non-Pharmaceutical Grade Substance Policy](#). If you have any questions, please contact UCAR (5-1693) or a DLAM veterinarian (5-2653).

### **Generating or Activating New Cage Cards**

As a reminder when activating new cage cards, make sure that the cage cards are for the correct species (e.g. mouse, rat etc.). Each species or room may have a different per diem rate. Also, if cage cards have a specific room listed on them, verify that you are using the cage card for the correct animal housing room.

### **Disasters and How Should We Plan?**

OLAW reminds grantee institutions that the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* requires PHS Assured institutions to “have a disaster plan that takes into account both personnel and animals. USDA amended the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) regulations to require all licensed and registered facilities to develop a contingency plan for emergencies.

Whether it is the pandemic flu, ice storm, blizzard, flood, tornado or any functional (operational) disruptions that could impact our research, our safety or the care/safety of our research animals; we must plan, practice and be prepared.

Make sure everyone in the lab is aware of the red and white emergency flip chart that addresses common emergencies. Visit the U of R's Emergency web page <http://www.rochester.edu/emergency/>. Cryopreservation of your valuable rodent strains could be one approach to protect your research.

The U of R is committed to protecting the safety and security of our community and continually reviews and updates our preparedness measures to address all potential disasters.



### Hydropac water pouch systems

Hydropaks are now used in CVRI, KMRB and is being implemented in the SMD Vivarium. Watch for an e-mail and door posting stating your room conversion date to schedule training.

Remember to flick the white valve to ensure water is flowing before placing animals into the cage. Place the pink flag with the date the rodents are weaned on all rodent weanling cages. Please contact a DLAM veterinarian to discuss Hydrogel use.

#### 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/>



Spring/Summer 2014.  
More information to follow.

## Working with Hazards???

If hazards are part of your UCAR protocol, please remember to submit a [NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO USE HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE\(S\) IN THE VIVARIUM](#) form at least two weeks before you begin hazard use.

The EH&S review sent to investigators whenever protocols are approved or modified to add a hazard includes the precautions required for handling hazards and hazard dosed animals. Investigators are asked to share the EH&S reviews with members of their lab.

## Congratulations to Our Animal Care Technicians

Congratulations to our animal care technicians who help provide consistency of care to your research animals by having perfect attendance in 2012! Thanks! Cindy Centola, Paul Gordon, Joseph Ibezim, Tumba Kalumbwe, Kate Knapp, Steve Merriam, Terry Nelson, Glenda Shoemaker and Ann Borkhuis.

## International Laboratory Animal Technician Week January 27 – February 2, 2013



the building blocks of research

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