

Producing Monoclonal Antibodies in Mice

The following general guidelines have been developed by UCAR for investigators who plan to produce monoclonal antibodies in mice.

1. If pristane is used, no more than 0.2 ml may be injected i.p., unless justified by the investigator and approved by UCAR.
2. Once ascites develops, a member of the research team must inspect each mouse each day and perform an abdominal paracentesis (tap) before ascites produces clinical signs.
3. Only two survival taps are allowed, with a third tap being done followed by euthanasia.
4. Taps may be done without chemical restraint. No larger than an 18g sterile hypodermic needle may be used. A smaller gauge (20g) needle is encouraged when possible.

Also, please consider using retired breeders in order to most efficiently use and conserve animals.