



Animal Resource & UCAR E-Newsletter

JUNE 22, 2011

VOLUME SPRING/SUMMER 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>).

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.**

Is your lab ready for the AAALAC, Inc. re-accreditation visit?

The Animal Resource and UCAR are preparing the University faculty and staff who use animals in research and teaching protocols for a **July 27-29, 2011** site visit where external reviewers (AAALAC - Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, International) will evaluate all aspects of an animal care and use program. An animal program (as defined by AAALAC) includes an organization's procedures and overall performance in animal care and use. The basic components that are evaluated include (but are not limited to) institutional policies, animal husbandry, veterinary care and the physical plant. AAALAC may visit Investigator's laboratories.

For additional information please visit the AAALAC website is www.aaalac.org, the FAQ page or [Preparing for an AAALAC International Site Visit](#).

Revised Recovery Surgery Guidelines

UCAR approved the "tips only" approach for rodent, bird and frog recovery surgeries. The newly adopted policies are inline with our sister institutions. Please visit the website to read the policies www.urmc.rochester.edu/ucar/policies/.

UCAR Refresher Training

UCAR developed a "refresher" training course which is available in [Blackboard](#). All Investigators, Staff and student must complete the training if your original Animal Resource Orientation was dated before June 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*

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



Blackboard, the course will be available on the right-hand side of your "My URMC" tab and on your "Courses" tab. Click on the course name to go into the course, 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.

Summer footwear

As warm weather arrives in Rochester, please remember that open toed shoes (e.g. flip-flops, sandals, etc) cannot be worn in the Vivarium. Environmental Health and Safety describes appropriate personal apparel in laboratories (<http://www.safety.rochester.edu/ih/chp/chpplan-15.html>).



Personal Apparel: Severe injuries and death have been reported to have occurred to lab personnel because their hair was caught in moving lab equipment or inappropriate clothing was worn. Although the PI/supervisor is responsible for appropriate apparel, EH&S recommends lab personnel:

- a. to confine long hair and loose clothing;
- b. not wear clothing that contain dangling laces/strings;
- c. not wear dangling jewelry;
- d. utilize break-away lanyards for IDs;
- e. wear only closed toed shoes/sneakers;
- f. never wear high-heeled shoes or light weight shoes/slippers that do not provide protection from broken glass or hazardous materials that may be on the floor;
- g. wear lab coats over street clothes to minimize potential fire hazards or chemical contamination when working with chemicals, especially flammable and pyrophoric materials.

Enrichment Strategy at the U of R

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.



Enrichment and well being of research animals translate into good science and best practice animal care. Per the ILAR 2011 Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, NIH expects their funded research programs to house socially compatible species in pairs or groups as the default method. Enrichment including promotion of natural behaviors such as nesting and burrowing for mice and rats, leafy browse exploration for nonhuman primates, natural perching for canaries and finches and increased voluntary interaction of research animals through operant conditioning such as training to present body parts for examination and manipulation are prioritized. As part of our institutional commitment to animal welfare, we have recruited an Animal Behavior Technologist to expand our program for the humane and responsible care and use of the University's research animals. We will introduce all stakeholders to our new hire in July!

New "Be Gentle-Post-op Rodent" Cage Cards

Contact us:

Phone

AR 5-2651
UCAR 5-1693

We're on the Web!

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

Effective July 1, 2011; DLAM will require that research staff document analgesic treatment at the cage level on "BE GENTLE- POST-OP RODENT" cage cards. Complete one analgesic treatment card for each cage of rodents receiving pain medication and place it on the cage behind the vivarium cage card. The card should remain on the cage during the post-operative period (i.e. until analgesic therapy is complete and/or sutures or wound clips are removed). After that time, the card may be maintained with your lab records. These special cage cards are available in the rodent rooms, procedure rooms and in the Animal Resource office.