



1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) provides husbandry and welfare information for establishing and receiving genetically altered mice.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Principal investigator (PI) and their research staff.

3. GENERAL

3.1 This SOP does not replace any requirements for BGU Office permission to import mice or rats.

3.2 The SOP is provided for information and guidance, and the originating establishment accepts no liability arising from the use of information provided in this document.

4. MOUSE PASSPORT

1.	Exact nomenclature	
2.	Background strain	
3.	Number of backcross generations	
4.	Details of modification Include: type of modification (if microinjection includes copy number where known), gene affected, inheritance pattern	
5.	References and websites (Where applicable)	
6.	Contact Name (at exporting facility)	

7.	Address	
8.	Email	
9.	Where did the strain originate from?	
10.	Genotyping method	
11.	Immune status Health report is required	
Summary of husbandry and welfare issues		
12.	General appearance (include a photograph if appropriate)	
	• Coat color	
	• Any physical abnormalities?	

	• Is any remedial action necessary?	
13.	Behavioral traits E.g., aggression, tremors, over-grooming, etc.	
	Is any remedial action necessary?	
14.	Other abnormalities: Include post-mortem findings	
15.	Was a structured welfare assessment carried out for the period adults normally maintain? If 'yes,' how long was this?	
16.	Husbandry recommendations:	
	• What diet are the mice fed on?	
	• Housing system, e.g., IVCs	

	• Environmental enrichment		
17.	What is the current breeding strategy?		
	Average litter size	Pre/post-weaning mortality	Breeding lifespan
18.	Growth rate (attach/include data if available)		
19.	Have specific phenotypic tests been performed? (Please attach results)	Yes	No
20.	Last Update	Name	Date

5. GUIDELINES NOTES

1. Details of correct strain nomenclature can be found at www.jax.org/jaxmice
2. Details of the original genetic background should be given.
3. Details of any subsequent breeding should be given.
4. Please give details of the transgene (and, where known, copy number if generated by pronuclear microinjection or random integration) or targeting construct and ES cell details. If mice are genetic mutants, give details of the mutation's nature and whether the original mice were spontaneous or induced mutants).
5. Please give details of any publications or websites that deal specifically with the strain. If substantial information is available, please give the most comprehensive or recent reference
6. Name of the primary contact at sending inst.
7. Address of originating establishment
8. Email address of primary contact
9. This should refer to the genetically altered (GA) animal's originator and the contact details to obtain permission to use the mice. Details should include where and when the mouse was generated.
10. Please give details of the genotyping procedure. Is screening by Southern Blotting, PCR, ELISA, physical appearance, or phenotypic expression? Please attach a protocol for the screening method.
11. Any known microbiological contamination? Include any information on what microorganisms were included in the screen, the time between each screen, and the method used (e.g., sentinels or littermates).
12. General appearance should include details such as the range of coat colors to be expected, coat condition and texture (e.g., downy or fine), any problems with hair growth, any physical abnormalities (e.g., shortened tails, extra digits, shortened face, obesity, overgrown or underdeveloped teeth). Bodyweight at different ages and growth rate information should be given, where available.
13. Any abnormal behavioral patterns (e.g., posture, movement, circling, tremors, aggression, submissive, and over-grooming) should be noted.
14. Any other abnormalities should be included.

15. Welfare assessments should be carried out for the period that adults normally maintain for that particular line, and the limit to this should be noted.
16. Details should be provided of husbandry advice, including any special precautions that should be taken. Points to consider include:
- What containment category does the animal fall into?
 - Are the mice immunosuppressed?
 - What is the most appropriate housing system? For example, housing, IVC, or quarantine (after the veterinarian's decision).
 - Special dietary requirements (please state consumable supplier). Please provide a reason as to why this may be necessary.
 - Special type of bedding and nesting materials required.
 - Any environmental enrichment devices found to be helpful or inappropriate.
 - Provide current environmental parameters, including temperature, humidity, and photoperiod
17. Breeding recommendations. It is essential to state which animals (male, female, all) carry the relevant transgene for breeding and welfare purposes. The transgenic status of the breeding colony should be stated, i.e., homozygous or heterozygous. Details of the system used to breed mice and any comments relating to breeding management (e.g., the age for first mating, pairs or harems, inbred or outbred, etc.). Also include average litter size, average number born live/dead, and pre-and post-weaning losses.
18. Information about body weight at different ages and growth rates should be given where available.
19. Specific phenotypic tests include post-mortem data, histology, and other analyses performed on the mice. Please give references if applicable.

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Approved by the BGU Animal Policy and Welfare Oversight Committee