



1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes limitations to keeping animals for extended periods.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Principal investigator (PI), their research staff.

3. PROCEDURES

3.1. Protocol review by BGU's Inst. Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC):

3.1.1. The IACUC evaluates the procurement and disposition of animals and the duration of the experiment and determines if animals can be transferred from, or to, another protocol or kept on experiment for the specified time based on the following:

3.1.1.1. Procedures conducted or to be performed

3.1.1.2. Input from the veterinarian

3.1.1.3. Animal Welfare Assessment

3.1.1.4. Guidelines presented in this policy

3.2. Inactive animals:

3.2.1. Definition: animals that have been received but are not yet used for research or teaching; animals in between experimentations or teaching.

3.2.2. Limitation (unless specified and approved in the animal protocol or SOP):

3.2.2.1. Rodents: 3 months

3.2.3. Prolongation: a prolongation of housing can be granted by the veterinarian upon appropriate justification by the PI.

3.3. Active animals (unless specified and approved in the animal protocol):

3.3.1. Definition: animals that are under experimentation or used for teaching.

3.3.2. Limitation:

3.3.2.1. Rodents: 12 months

3.3.3. Prolongation: a prolongation of housing can be granted by the facility veterinarian upon appropriate justification by the PI.

3.4. Breeders:

3.4.1. Breeders are kept for the duration of their fertile period.

3.5. Animals participating in successive protocols:

- 3.5.1. Definition: animals undergoing successive protocol after the holding period.
 - 3.5.2. Procedure: The facility veterinarian, in consultation with the PI, will assess the animal's condition and, based on previous protocol(s), will determine if it can be submitted to the proposed protocol.
 - 3.5.3. The veterinarian will determine the frequency of the following evaluations based on the animal's age or physical and behavioral condition (e.g., aging animals may require a more frequent assessment).
- 3.6. Documentation:
- 3.6.1. Document successive protocols in the medical record.
 - 3.6.2. Document veterinary evaluation and recommendation in the medical record.

SOP 809 LONG-TERM HOUSING

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Approved by the BGU Animal Policy and Welfare Oversight Committee