

Quarantine Policy for DLAM

Purpose: There is an inherent risk of the introduction of bacteria, viruses and/or other pathogens when new animals are brought into DLAM animal colonies. This risk can be minimized by;

- Limiting direct colony access to animals from “approved commercial vendors” who satisfy established health related criteria.
 - Screening animals (particularly rodents) from random sources for pathogens prior to introduction to colony animals.
 - When appropriate, isolating new animals from colony animals in a DLAM designated quarantine area prior to colony introduction until it is determined that the animals are healthy.
1. **Approved commercial rodent (Mus and Rattus) vendors** require no quarantine or testing. They are purchased through DLAM and delivered directly into animal rooms:
 - a. Documentation of (minimum) quarterly testing and disease free rodent status for production colonies for at least two prior years for the following organisms:
 - i. Mice : MHV, MVM (MMV), MPV (MPV1, MPV2, MPV3), MNV, THEV, EDIM, Sendai virus, Mycoplasma pulmonis, PVM, Reovirus 3, LCMV, Ectromelia virus, MAD1, MAD2, Polyoma virus, Encephalitozoon cuniculi, CARB, Clostridium piliforme, Hantaan virus, K virus, MTV, and MCMV.
 - ii. Rats : RCV, RPV, RMV, KRV, H-1, RTV (Rat theilovirus), Sendai virus, PVM, Mycoplasma pulmonis, Reovirus 3, LCMV, CARB, Hantaan virus, Clostridium piliforme, MAD1, MAD2, IDIR, KRV, and Encephalitozoon cuniculi.
 - b. Be a commercial institution with the primary purpose of providing specific pathogen free rodents for research, and have an excellent record for customer service and communication..
 2. **Rodent Quarantine:** Any rodent coming from a non-approved facility must undergo quarantine and testing prior to colony entry.
 - a. Preliminary information is needed in order to facilitate communication Between DLAM veterinary staff, administration, and contact people at the institution sending the rodents. Prior to quarantine entry, the following information must be submitted to DLAM.
 - i. Health reports from the originating institution to include negative serology for (MHV, Sendai, PVM, M. pulmonis, GD-VII, Reo-3,

- MPV, EDIM, LCM, Ectromelia), as well as endo/ecto parasite screen within the last 18 months.
- ii. Phone/FAX for veterinarian from the originating institution.
 - iii. Phone/FAX for the investigator from the originating institution.
- b. Each of the quarantine rooms are operated on an “all-in-all-out” basis. There will be at least a one-week open “quarantine window” prior to the start of the quarantine period. Shipments of mice will be arranged to arrive during this time.
- c. After a minimum of three week quarantine period a animal from the colony will be selected for testing. If the animal is tested negative then, a sentinel trial will begin and will continue for at least two weeks. Rodents will be released from quarantine as soon as negative serology and parasitology status is confirmed.
- d. Access to animals during the quarantine period is limited to DLAM personnel, and breeding is not allowed. Exceptions to this policy must be arranged prior to animal arrival.
- e. In case of a positive report during quarantine;
- i. Results will be evaluated by DLAM veterinary staff and discussed with the investigator.
 - ii. Each individual cage (usually one animal per cage) from the suspect group will be bled and re-tested for the organism identified at the original screening. Animals from cages testing positive must be removed from quarantine and will not be allowed into the colony. Animals from cages testing negative must complete a second four-week quarantine period.
 - iii. Non-suspect shipments of rodents must stay in quarantine for a second four-week period, and retested before release.
3. **Non-mus/rattus purpose-bred laboratory animals** (e.g voles, white footed mice, African clawed frogs, finches) may be brought directly into animal rooms without quarantine and testing, but may require some form of isolation upon arrival DLAM must be consulted prior to purchase of these animals. DLAM veterinarian will contact the vendor and discuss the health status of the animals in discretion of DLAM vet staff.
3. **Isolation or quarantine of wild-trapped vertebrate animals may be required** prior to their introduction into existing animal colonies. The requirement for testing is at the discretion of DLAM veterinarian. DLAM **must** be consulted at least two weeks prior to the date of arrival to determine if isolation/quarantine is necessary and arrange for appropriate housing and SOPs.