

Regarding: Health Status of Mice

Sentinel Monitoring:

The mice are housed in an animal holding room on the Area 3 of the barrier-maintained production facility. No internal or external pathogens have been detected in the barrier-maintained production facility. Sentinel animals are placed in all animal holding rooms and used to monitor the health status. Soiled bedding is randomly selected from other cages in the room and placed in sentinel animal cages once weekly during the changing of cages. The colony is monitored on a monthly basis. Below is a description of the screening procedures used.

- Sentinel animals are placed in the respective animal rooms at least 6 weeks prior to testing to allow adequate time for exposure to potential pathogens.
- Animals are given inhalation anesthesia with diethyl ether and exsanguinated via cardocentesis.

The surveillance schedule is as follows:

Monthly

Pseudomonas aeruginosa (Culture), Pasteurella pneumotropica (Culture), Salmonella spp. (Culture), Citrobacter rodentium (Culture), Corynebacterium kutscheri (Culture and Agg.), Clostridium pilferer (ELISA), Dermatophytes (Culture), Mycoplasma spp. (Culture and ELISA), Sendai virus (ELISA), Mouse hepatitis virus (ELISA), Giardia muris (Microscopy), Spironucleus muris (Microscopy), Syphacia spp. (Microscopy)

Quarterly

Ectromelia virus (ELISA), Lymphocytic choriomeningitis (ELISA) , Mouse adenovirus (ELISA)

Husbandry:

The mice are housed in TPX cages. Cages, bedding and potable water are autoclave sterilized. Mice are fed with gamma-radiated standard rodent diet. Before entering the barrier-maintained facility, husbandry personnel wash hands and legs clean with a sanitizer, and wear sterilized garments, shoes, caps, masks and gloves. Care environment is as follows.

- Air conditioning: Single air flow spreading system
- Ventilation frequency: More than 25/H
- Temperature: 23 ±2
- Humidity: 50%±10%
- Lighting: light and dark 12 hours each (7:00am-7:00pm)

Every animal is observed daily, seven days a week, by husbandry personnel. Any abnormality or death in an animal is reported verbally and in writing through the use of a Morbidity/Mortality report form. The clinical veterinarian is contacted and delegates action to be taken accordingly (early euthanasia, necropsy, etc).

If you require any additional information, please contact me at obs-p@oyc.co.jp

Shuji Takayama, DVM
Minami-Yamashiro Laboratory
Oriental BioService Inc.