



Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Policy on Alternative Housing of Rodents

Date Reviewed: 7/26/18

PURPOSE

It is the policy of the UCSC IACUC that rodents used for research, teaching and testing are housed in the UCSC animal facility on the campus. Housing of animals outside of this facility can increase the risk to the animals and to the people around them, particularly those individuals who have animal allergies.

The alternative housing of experimental rodents for more than 12 hours will be dealt with on a case by case basis, and will only be granted when scientifically justified and when the housing conditions meet UCSC standards and conform to the 8th Edition of the Guide.

POLICY

In cases, where a Principal Investigator requires alternative housing of experimental animals outside of the vivarium, the Principal Investigator must provide proper care as specified by UCSC IACUC. This includes the ability of the vivarium manager, the UCSC Veterinarian and their animal techs to have unlimited access to the alternative housing location.

The ability to have such alternative animal housing is a privilege and not a right. Formal application to the UCSC IACUC must be made prior to the provision of alternative housing.

PROCEDURES

When a Principal Investigator identifies a requirement for special animal housing arrangements that involve housing of animals outside of the vivarium for more than 12 hours, the veterinarian should be notified and an amendment or de-novo IACUC application filled out and submitted to the IACUC. In completing the form, particular attention should be paid to the justification for the alternative housing and description of the alternative housing space. In reviewing the application, the IACUC will inspect the alternative housing location. If the alternative housing request is approved, all per-diem fees and other relevant charges of the animal facility from which the animals originate will be applicable to the animals in the alternative housing