



Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Policy on Cage Cards

Reviewed: 6/11/2019

I. Purpose

Animal records are an essential component to an effective animal use protocol. Required documentation ranges from basic information on animal identification cards on cages and enclosures to detailed computerized records for individual animals.

II. Identification Card Requirements

Means of animal identification can include room, rack, tank, or enclosure and must include cage/enclosure/tank cards with written, or bar-coded, or radio frequency identification (RFID) information.

a. Vivarium Maintained identification cards must include the items indicated in bold and should include the following when relevant:

- **Must include names and contact information for the responsible investigator(s)**
- **Must include litter birth date for mice**
- **Must include IACUC protocol number**
- Should include the source of the animal, strain or stock when applicable.
- Genotype information should also be included, and consistent, unambiguous abbreviations should be used when the full genotype nomenclature is too lengthy.

b. Investigator Maintained identification cards must include items as indicated in bold, and should include the following when necessary:

- **Must include names and contact information for the responsible investigator(s)**
- **Must include IACUC protocol number**
- **Must include number of animals**
- **Must include species**
- **Must include sex if known**
- Should include date of birth/arrival/collection when applicable.
- Should include source location when applicable.

III. References:

Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (NRC, 2011)