



# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE SOP #705 ANIMAL CONTAINMENT LEVEL 2 - RODENTS

---

## 1. PURPOSE

---

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the procedures for housing and caring for rodents exposed to pathogens requiring containment level 2 (CL2).

## 2. RESPONSIBILITY

---

Principal investigator and their research staff, facility manager, veterinary care and animal care staff.

## 3. CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.2.1.3. Mask: must cover the mouth and nose at all times
- 5.2.1.4. Bonnet: must cover all the hair.
- 5.2.1.5. Disposable sleeve covers: must extend over the gloves by at least one inch. Disposable sleeve covers are single-use only and should be disposed of when leaving the room.
- 5.2.1.6. Shoe covers
- 5.2.1.7. Protective eyewear: where there is a risk of exposure to splashes.
- 5.2.2. PPE should be donned and doffed in a manner which limits contamination with potentially infectious materials.
- 5.3. Animal room
  - 5.3.1. Set the room relative pressure as negative inward directional air flow compared to corridor and/or anteroom.
  - 5.3.2. Doors to animal rooms must remain closed when infected animals are present.
  - 5.3.3. Ensure appropriate biohazard warning signage is present, including the name of all pathogens present.
  - 5.3.4. Ensure PSDS for all pathogens in the room is available.
- 5.4. Do not drink, eat, or store food for human consumption in animal rooms.
- 5.5. Do not touch your face, mask, or bonnet while working in the CL2 rooms.
- 5.6. Animal transfers into the BCL2 rooms need not be approved by CMARC. However, animals should never be transferred out from the BCL2 housing rooms to regular housing rooms, unless specifically approved by CMARC.
- 5.7. Use materials and equipment dedicated for the CL2 rooms, this includes notebooks, cage cards, pens, ear punchers, instruments, etc. When storing equipment and materials in the CL2 rooms, these must be kept in closed, labeled storage containers.
- 5.8. House animals in microisolator cages with solid lids on ventilated Positive/Negative Control racks set to negative pressure.
- 5.9. Label all cages with a biohazard sign (including biohazard symbol) and indicate the name of the biohazard used and the date of administration.
- 5.10. Perform all procedures in a BSC (changing cages, handling animals, infecting animals, necropsy, etc.).
- 5.11. Do not recap needles. Dispose in a CSA-approved puncture-resistant sharps container

- 5.14.1. Autoclave the soiled equipment in a certified autoclave and ensure proper steam penetration. Perform regular autoclave monitoring.
- 5.14.2. After autoclaving, dispose of the bedding as regular waste and process equipment as non-hazardous.
- 5.15. Decontaminate work surfaces after use or after a spill using the appropriate disinfectant.
- 5.16. Wash or sanitize your hands after handling infectious material or animals, before leaving the room. Wearing gloves does not dispense from the need to wash hands.
- 5.17. Waste disposal
  - 5.17.1. Place all disposable components in an autoclavable bag for decontamination by autoclaving.
  - 5.17.2. Dispose of infectious waste and animal carcasses by incineration.

## 6. REFERENCES

- 6.1. [Canadian Biosafety Standard](#) (CBS) Third Edition, April 1, 2023.
- 6.2. [Canadian biosafety guidelines](#), March 31, 2023.
- 6.3. Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) [Pathogen Safety Data Sheets](#) (PSDSs)
- 6.4. US [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

## SOP REVISION HISTORY

DATE	NEW VERSION
2016.03.01	4.2. The following personal protective equipment must be worn at all times when handling infectious materials: 4.2.1. Bonnet: must cover all the hair. 4.2.2. Mask: must cover the mouth and nose at all times 4.2.3. Gown: only use disposable gowns. Tie the gown in the back. Disposable gowns <del>are</del> <del>single</del> and should be disposed of when leaving the room. 4.2.4. Gloves: should be inspected for tears frequently and changed as needed. Stretch gloves over the <del>back of</del> <del>the</del> <del>hand</del> to cover any exposed skin. Wear double gloves at all times. 4.2.5. Disposable sleeve covers: must extend over the gloves by at least one inch. Disposable sleeve <del>covers</del> <del>are</del> <del>single</del> and should be disposed of when leaving the room. 4.2.6. Protective eyewear: we recommended that you wear protective eyewear at all times.
2016.03.01	4.3. Use dedicated materials and equipment (notebooks, cage cards, pens, ear punchers, instruments).
2016.03.01	4.13.5. Securely seal the second bag with autoclavable elastic bands or twist ties and spray with disinfectant
2018.11.14	3.7. CSA approved sharps disposal container
2023.06.09	STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE SOP 705.02 - ANIMAL CONTAINMENT LEVEL 2 RODENTS
2023.06.09	1. PURPOSE This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the procedures for housing and caring for rodents <del>exposed to</del> <del>rodenticide</del> <del>for</del> <del>rodenticide</del>

