



University Committee on Animal Care

Policy on Euthanasia of Mice in Quarantine

The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals requires euthanasia methods be consistent with the 2020 Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia unless a deviation is justified for scientific or medical reasons. It is essential that euthanasia be performed by personnel who are skilled in methods for the species in question and that it be performed in a professional and compassionate manner. Additionally, all methods of euthanasia should be reviewed and approved by the UCAC.

The importation of mice from non-approved vendors (i.e. other academic institutions) requires the animals to be processed through quarantine. During the quarantine period animals will sometimes develop clinical problems which require euthanasia. The carbon dioxide euthanasia chamber is located in the general animal facility. Transporting the mice through the animal facility to the euthanasia station presents a risk to the resident colonies.

To minimize the risk of the spread of adventitial agents the use of cervical dislocation is allowed for mice during the quarantine period. The procedure may be performed by the Attending Veterinarian or the Veterinary Technician, who are both very well trained in cervical dislocation.

Approved by the ETSU University Committee on Animal Care: August 17, 2006

Revised and approved: September 14, 2021