



Standard Operating Procedure Biological Toxin Administration to Animals

Investigator Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least three working days prior to initiation of the study, the Principal Investigator or research staff must notify and meet with Comparative Medicine personnel.• The housing of animals is arranged by Comparative Medicine, if requests for specific areas are needed, please consult with facility Management.• Following administration of agent, in addition to the regular cage card, a RED cage card indicating the biohazard must be placed on the cage including the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Agent administered○ Date of administration○ Duration of shedding• A Biohazard Sign must be placed on the door of the animal housing room, these signs are provided by Comparative Medicine, but it is the investigators responsibility to make sure it is posted.• Cards and door signs must be removed once the biohazard is no longer present.• Comparative Medicine practices and procedures as well as IBC SOPs for working with biological toxins must be followed at all times.
Entry Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Following Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), must be worn to enter the animal room:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Disposable gown○ Double latex and/or nitrile gloves○ Hair bonnet○ Shoe covers• Hands must be washed following removal of PPE PRIOR to leaving the animal room.• All procedures must be performed in a Class II Biosafety Cabinet (BSC), including cage change.
Cage Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Animals must be housed in micro-isolator/filter-top cages or ventilated racks.• Animal Waste and contaminated bedding must be handled to minimize generation of aerosols.• Contaminated bedding must be emptied from cages using a HEPA filtered dump station or Class II BSC. Alternatively, bedding can be autoclaved within the cages prior to dumping with regular bedding.• Before leaving the animal room or ABSL-2 suite, contaminated cages should be sprayed with Virkon-S or freshly prepared 10% bleach, and placed into RED biohazard bags for autoclaving.• All animal carcasses must be placed into a biohazard bag prior to leaving the room and subsequently into a biohazard container marked for incineration.
Decontamination and Spill Procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Empty caging should be sprayed with Virkon-S or freshly prepared 10% bleach and placed into RED biohazard bags for autoclaving.• In the event of a spill of biological toxins, restrict traffic to the area, cover the spill with absorbent material and soak the absorbent material with either Virkon-S or 10% bleach. After appropriate contact time, dispose of materials into the biohazard trash and clean the area with 70% isopropanol or equivalent. Care should be taken during clean-up to minimize the generation of aerosols.• Work surfaces and equipment should be cleaned using Virkon-S or 10% bleach after use. Any equipment that will leave the animal room or ABSL-2 suite, MUST BE DISINFECTED prior to leaving, even if the equipment was not used.
Required Door Sign	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparative Medicine personnel will provide the completed Biohazard door sign. However, it is the responsibility of the PI to communicate with Comparative Medicine the necessary information to be included and to display the sign when biohazards are in use.• Door Signs should indicate the biosafety level, agent in use, entry requirements and restrictions including necessary PPE, as well as emergency contact information.