

The DLAM Sentinel

A Newsletter from the Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine (DLAM)

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New DLAM SOP: Rodent Cage Population Limits – Effective February 1st, 2018

DLAM will be implementing a new SOP that will replace the old “Rodent Overcrowding” SOP. It takes into account new space recommendations in the eighth edition of the *Guide* for dams with pups. It also clarifies what size cages DLAM has in the different vivaria, and how many animals are permitted in each. It defines a “litter” of rodents as “offspring in one cage up to fourteen (14) individuals, all born within four (4) days of each other.” With harem breeding, this may be beneficial, allowing two (2) mouse dams with small numbers of pups to remain in the same cage, provided the male is removed. Details on how the population limits are defined and separations carried out by DLAM if cages are found to be overcrowded are in the SOP, from the DLAM website (copy and paste into your browser):

<https://portal.dlam2.ucla.edu/VeterinaryServices/QualityAssurance/Documents/> and click on SOP 0249-02. Please take a moment to review this SOP, as labs will be responsible for following it as of February 1st. Thank you!

Please Update Lab Contact Lists

Our veterinary care staff has noted that many lab contact lists are outdated, and personnel are not receiving emails or health case notices. At this point, DLAM manages two lists, one through the REACTOR PI Portal for health case notices (for mice, rats and birds), and one through Outlook for general DLAM emails, *The DLAM Sentinel*, etc.

For the PI Portal updates, please follow these instructions:

Log into [REACTOR PI Portal](#) .

Click the “Lab Contacts” tab at the top.

Then Click the “add contact” link and supply the nine (9) digit UCLA of users you want to add (they must be listed in the ARC’s RATS system to be added)

Be sure to correct any email addresses that may be incorrect or no longer relevant.

If you need to remove users, just click on the name of the contact and then click the “delete” button.

If this is not successful (there are some glitches), contact Marshall Reed (MReed@mednet.ucla.edu) for assistance.

To update your lab’s Outlook list for general DLAM emails:

Please email JReeves@mednet.ucla.edu with a list (names and email addresses) that you want added or deleted, and under what PI name.

Hopefully, starting late Spring 2018, we will be implementing a new health case management system that will allow us better communication with PI lab staff.

Need to Know How to Use That Medication?

DLAM has recently updated its list of “Common DLAM Prescribed Treatments.” On this, you will find some of the newer medications that DLAM veterinarians have been prescribing, such as bacon-flavored Baytril tablets, which mice and rats will more readily consume, and topical Medihoney wound dressing gel. It also includes dilution and dosing information for other commonly-used medications. This document is located at (copy link into your browser): [https://portal.dlam2.ucla.edu/VeterinaryServices/Documents/Common DLAM Prescribed Treatments.pdf](https://portal.dlam2.ucla.edu/VeterinaryServices/Documents/Common%20DLAM%20Prescribed%20Treatments.pdf). If you have questions on the use of any of these compounds, please contact our Clinical Veterinarian, Dr. Cris Torres, at CTorresUrbano@mednet.ucla.edu.

A Reminder on DLAM Rodent Surgery Room Use and Hours

The DLAM Rodent Surgery Suite (CHS 2V125) is available for labs to use for both survival and non-survival surgeries, except for perfusions which require the use of a chemical fume hood. No biohazardous procedures can take place in this location. Prior to use, labs must take an orientation session with the room manager. Operating hours are 8 AM – 3 PM Monday – Friday, and reservations must be made in advance. DLAM provides the following supplies at no charge: use of the surgery room; Betadine scrub and 70% isopropyl alcohol for skin prep; isoflurane anesthetic machines (labs supply the isoflurane); oxygen; water circulating pumps for heating pads (labs supply their own pads); a glass bead sterilizer; and room cleaning supplies. For more information and to schedule the suite, please email DLAMRSR@mednet.ucla.edu .

Expect Rodent Health Cases Seven Days Per Week

Please note that veterinary technicians may be sending out health case notices through the PI Portal to labs every day of the week, including Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. This is to ensure that our animals continue to receive a high level of care even outside of normal work hours. Even when no lab staff are on-campus, please designate some member(s) to be checking emails for these notices, so that they might review and respond to them. DLAM staff is available to assist with treatments or euthanasia for urgent cases (some fees for labor or supplies may apply). If you have questions or need help on any of these cases, please reply back through the PI Portal on that case with your response. We thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation in maintaining a high standard of animal care at UCLA.