



Assign #	CMRC Policy for the Use of Rodent Biologicals in Rodents		
Approved by:	IACUC	Date: 4/15/08	
Chair, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee			
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Date Last Revised: Initial Issue			Page 1 of 2

TITLE	:	CMRC Policy for the Use of Rodent Biologicals in Rodents
SCOPE	:	These guidelines are applicable to the use of rodent biologicals in rodents.
SOP OWNER	:	Research Support Facility
PURPOSE	:	To help provide guidance on required testing of rodent biologicals.
EQUIPMENT	:	None
RELATED SOPS	:	None

Pathogen Testing

Rodent Serology Tracking profiles are ordered on a case-by-case basis for rodents at CMRC thru Charles River. Specific pathogens include:

Species	Pathogens Included in Serology Testing
Mouse	MPV-1, MPV-2, MVM, NS-1, MHV, MNV, TMEV, EDIM, SEND, PVM, REO, LCMV, ECTRO, POLY, and MPUL
Rat	RPV, H-1, KRV, RMV, NS-1, SDAV, RTV, SEND, PVM, REO, LCMV and MPUL

The biologicals to be tested are injected into mice or rats, and after a certain time point, the animals are euthanized and serological tests performed.

I. Definitions

- A. Rodent Pathogens** – are pathogenic microorganisms that are present in rodent “blood” and “other potentially infectious material.”
- B. Universal Precautions** – all blood and body fluids, tissues and cells are treated as if known to be infectious with bloodborne pathogens.

II. Responsibility

- A.** The PI is responsible for submitting to IACUC for review and approval, a protocol detailing the proposed use of rodent biologicals in rodents, including but not limited to tumors, cell lines, serum and embryonic stem cells.
- B.** The PI is responsible for consulting with Director, RSF to determine the appropriate testing.
- C.** The PI is responsible for obtaining and providing samples for testing once every 3-5 years.
- D.** The PI is responsible for obtaining biologicals from the same, previously tested source.
- E.** The Research Support Facility staff is responsible for providing information on testing requirements.
- F.** The Research Support Facility staff is responsible for processing and mailing the samples.
- G.** Human xenograph tissue raised in rodents at CMRC and implanted back into recipient rodents is exempt from this policy due to the Sentinel testing program.

III. Background

Tumors, cell lines and other biologicals, including serum and embryonic stem cells, may be contaminated with rodent diseases. Usually, contamination occurs by deriving cell lines or other biologicals from rodents, or by passaging them through rodents at some point. Many rodent pathogens survive quite well in cell culture environments and can therefore be passed back into other rodents. Unfortunately, the major suppliers of cell lines and tumors do not generally test for rodent viruses, although they often test for bacteria, fungi, and Mycoplasma. There are several procedures available to assure the safe use of biologicals at CMRC. All use of biologicals in animals or in laboratories using animals must follow one of these procedures. Use of animals requires an approved animal use protocol with a complete description of the use of biologicals.

SAFETY:

- Universal precautions are required to be followed.
- Wear personal protective equipment (lab coat, safety goggles, gloves), when handling animals.
- All animal handlers are required to complete animal training with the Director, RSF.