



LOCATION DETAILS

School/Branch: School of Molecular & Biomedical Science

SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE DETAILS

Reviewed on: 16/02/2011

Next Review Date: **16/02/2016**

Version: 2

PREPARED BY: Name, position, & Signature (insert names of supervisor, HSO, subject matter expert)

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Signature:

Kate Millan

RISK ASSESSMENT

See risk assessment: PROC104 – Animal Handling (dated 15/02/2011)

Risk Rating: **Medium**

RISKS IDENTIFIED

- Physical injury from handling, especially larger animals
- Physical injury from cuts, scratches and bites
- Infection – from both zoonotic diseases (e.g. Q Fever) and micro-organisms introduced from the experiment
- Needlestick/sharps injuries
- Asthma and allergies
- Affects from anaesthetic and euthanasia agents

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

The following control measures **MUST** be adhered to:

- All staff/students working with animals must have read the Safe Operating Procedure and been given appropriate instruction by a competent person.
- All staff/students must complete during the course of their work the University's Small Animal Handling/Animal Ethics Training.
- Task protocols must be followed at all times.
- Staff/students with known allergies must alert their supervisor prior to working with animals.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

The following PPE must be worn at all times when working with animals:

- Gloves – remember not to rub exposed skin e.g. face with contaminated gloves
- Face mask
- Lab coat/gown
- Safety glasses where there is a risk of eye-splashes e.g. working with blood/contaminants

SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

- Always follow the task protocol for the work you are doing.
- Minimise self inoculation, scratches or bites by anaesthetising the animal or have an assistant hold it
- Place the animal/s in a Biosafety cabinet
- Follow standard laboratory rules at all times
- Work in a well ventilated area (e.g. fume hood)
- Take care to minimise aerosols and wear a face mask
- Always follow Safe Operating Procedures for working with the Anaesthetic Machine. You **MUST NOT** operate this equipment without being trained.

OTHER INFORMATION

- Vaccination is available against some organisms, and is recommended for Tetanus, Q Fever (Coxiella Burnetti), and Hepatitis A/B.

REFERENCED DOCUMENTATION

RA PROC104 Animal Handling
RA PROC105 Sharps & Glass Use (& SOP)
Protocols for Needle-stick Injuries
RA 101MBS Anaesthetic Machine (& SOP)
MBS Manual Handling Procedures