

Animal Facility – Physical distancing and COVID-19 protocol

PREAMBLE: During the ramp up period of the animal facility, in order to help both the staff and the users, please plan ahead your veterinary supply requests as well as masks needs. We will provide one mask per user per day, and it must be worn at all times when users are within the animal facility premises.

PURPOSE: To minimize COVID-19 exposure and spread between users while working in the animal facility.

RESPONSIBILITY: To be followed by animal facility staff and all users working in the animal facility, including the MRI area (CIC).

MATERIALS: Biohazard disposable box, laundry bin (for gowns), disposable gloves, reusable gowns, Prevail solution, pail and mop, N95 masks (preferred) or disposable surgical masks or personal cloth mask.

ON THE SURGERY/PROCEDURE DAY

Sign-in on Health Form placed on the door of every surgery/procedure room that you are using.

Physical Distancing While in the Animal Facility

All staff and researchers must observe social distancing with all others while within the Research Center and Animal Facility.

1. Due to limited space in common rooms, posters have been added on respective doors to mention what is the maximum allowed users at once (the 'capacity') within a given room. The capacity of a room must not be exceeded under any circumstances.
2. If 2 or more people are involved in conducting surgery/procedure, they must maintain 2m or 6ft distance while conducting surgery/procedure.

Hygiene & Cleaning of Equipment and Surfaces

1. Disinfect hands with alcohol disinfectant upon entering & exiting the animal facility.
2. Put on face mask and reusable gown - keep this on during the full time you are present in the animal facility.
3. After completion of surgery/procedure session use Prevail solution and brown paper to wipe down:
 - i. Door knobs
 - ii. Anesthesia machines and/or behavior equipment
 - iii. Computers, desktops (do not spray directly on computer)
 - iv. Prep Room Counter tops
 - v. Cart used to transport material and/or cages

- vi. Any other equipment touched
Please don't spray electrical equipment directly when wiping down the used systems
- 3. Dispose of gloves before leaving the room (no gloves allowed in corridors) and mask (unless you need to reuse it that day) and reusable gown upon exiting the animal facility and disinfect hands. Every user is responsible for the proper care and storage of their daily mask if they need to re-entry the animal facility on more than one occasion during the day.

Researchers' Responsibilities

Insuring that anyone conducting research is in good health (sign COVID Healthy Affirmation Form on door of room before entering) and is conducting research willingly and with full awareness of any associated risks.