



Animal Care and Health Requirements

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Introduction

Animals unbroken at intervals AN animal house square measure all keen about man for his or her health and well-being. Their physical and condition are influenced by their surroundings, food, water and also the care and a spotlight provided by the animal house employees. The aim is to keep up animals in physiological condition and strength, behaving in a very manner v traditional to the species and strain, amenable to handling and appropriate for the scientific procedure that they're supposed. All animals ought to be inspected a minimum of once daily and routine examinations ought to be administrated with comfortable frequency to confirm that their health and well- being is maintained. Those subject to scientific L procedures should be inspected at a frequency coextensive with the severity of the interference.[1-5]

Responsibilities

Responsibility for the care of laboratory animals falls upon:

- Individual users, whether or not licensees or not, UN agency should assume final responsibility for all their animals,
- The person nominal as to blame for the day to day care of the animals,
- The named MD (or alternative fitly qualified person) UN agency provides recommendation on the health and welfare of the animals,
- The animal technician.

Animal Resources: underneath the 1986 Act the subsequent commonly-used species that square measure bred for laboratory use: mouse, rat, guinea-pig, hamster, rabbit and primate should be obtained from selected breeding or offer institutions. Dogs and cats should be obtained from selected breeding institutions. Cattle, sheep, pigs, horses, poultry and alternative birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish is also obtained from specialist breeders or alternative industrial sources. Importation of animals from overseas is controlled by the Animal Health Act, 1981, and for a few species by the species. several wild animals together with birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians square measure protected by the life and country Act, 1981. Permission of MAFF is also needed. If within the capture of huge ANimals it's necessary to use an anaesthetic or immobilising agent, this could be administered by a MD or alternative authorised person. Tranquillising weapons together with blowpipes square measure classed as prohibited weapons underneath the Firearms Act, 1968, and will solely be nonheritable on the authority of the house workplace and with a allow from the native police captain. The tranquillising agent can itself be subject to extra management underneath the Misuse of medicine Act, 1971. [6-10]

Transportation: Stress throughout transportation ought to be minimised by creating animals as snug as potential in their containers and if confinement is to be prolonged, by providing food and water. Time in transit ought to be unbroken to a minimum, The sender ought to make sure that the animals to be transported square measure in physiological condition and adequately tagged. Animals that square measure incompatible shouldn't be transported along. Sick or lac animals ought to be transported just for functions of treatment,

diagnosis, or emergency slaughter. Pregnant animals want special care. sheep shouldn't commonly be transported throughout the last week of maternity and little animals within the last fifth of maternity. placental transport is regulated by numerous orders currently underneath the Animal Health Act, 1981, and details ought to be obtained from MAFF. m MAFF. wherever animals square measure subject to regulate underneath the 1986 Act it's necessary to consult the Inspector for authority to transfer them to alternative selected premises. wherever laboratory animals square measure to be foreign or exported recommendation ought to be sought-after from the native Divisional Veterinary Officer, MAFF and also the office.

Housing: Animals got to be far-off from their transport containers with the tiniest quantity potential delay. once examination, the animals got to be transferred to clean cages or pens and be appointed food and water as applicable. Animals that area unit sick, animal product or otherwise out of condition ought to be unbroken beneath shut observation, housed on an individual basis and examined by a veterinarian (or alternative competent person) as shortly as doable. A record ought to be fabricated from animals received,, their supply and date of arrival. Animals ought to be known by cage labelling within the case of rodents and alternative tiny laboratory animals. Dogs, cats, primates and livestock, if not already identity marked, ought to be allotted individual numbers, e.g. by tattooing or ear-tagging. If permanent marking isn't practicable, e.g. in marmosets, the animal ought to be fitted with a collar or jewelry bearing its range.

Acclimatisation: Acclimatisation is necessary for an animal to overcome the stress imposed by transport and subsequent exposure to a new environment with different diet, microflora and a change of human contacts before subjecting it to scientific procedures. The period of time required will vary according to circumstances and should be determined by the user in consultation with the animal house manager.

Bedding and nesting of animals: The bedding should be easy and comfortable to the animals, it should be non-dusty, non-toxic, and free infectious agents and other forms of contamination or sawdust and there should be not be used with any chemicals

Food Diet: It should be formulated to satisfy the nutritional requirements of the animals (Clarke et al., 1977). In the selection, production and preparation of food, precautions should be taken to avoid chemical, physical and microbiological contamination. Food should, when appropriate, be packed in sealed bags that are stamped

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with the production date. Packing, transport and storage should avoid contamination, deterioration or destruction of the food. Perishable foods should be stored in cold rooms, refrigerators or freezers.

Water facility: Potable water should normally be available to all animals at all times. It is usually provided in water bottles or other containers or by an automatic system. During transport it is acceptable in some cases to provide water in the form of a moist diet

Cleaning: Regular cleaning and maintenance and a high standard of hygiene are essential for good husbandry. Routines should be established for cleaning, washing, decontaminating or sterilising cages and accessories.

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