



OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE

## Working Instructions

<b>WIN Number:</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>Nonhuman Primate Cage Change</b>	<b>Revision #:</b>	<b>0</b>
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### PROCEDURE

All work instructions must be demonstrated by the trainer and performed by the trainee.

### Setup:

1. Place the designated signage leading to NHP hallway entrances notifying personnel that cage changing is in process & full PPE is required to enter NHP hallway.
2. Place PPE and a biohazard trash bin at the entrance of the NHP hallway and dirty cage wash.
  - a. Don full NHP PPE prior to entering the NHP hallway and cage wash once cage change is underway.
3. Collect the necessary supplies:
  - a. Clean cages
    - Stage the exact number & type of cage needed outside of housing room in the NHP hallway.
  - b. Enrichment toys, porches, plastic hides, and tunnels
  - c. Key to locks
  - d. Carabiners
  - e. Tuberculocidal disinfectant and spray pump, foamer, or bottle

4. Disconnect the automatic watering line (lixit) from the wall side connection (if present).
  - a. Place the neon yellow "caution out of service" tag on the wall attachment for the automatic watering line to indicate that the lixit has been disconnected and must be reconnected after cage change is completed.
5. Disconnect the cages from the wall tethers/brackets in the housing room.
6. Shift animal(s) with multiple cage units to one (1) cage.
7. Move cage tags to the cage containing the animal(s).
8. Close all opened sliding door panels on all cages.
9. Move empty, dirty cages to one side of the room by disconnecting each cage from existing cages (if applicable) and unlocking the wheel brakes prior to moving the cage.
10. Remove all locks from the dirty cages.
11. Drain dirty cage pans by tilting them backwards (if applicable) and use a hose to spray contents of pan toward the floor drain.
12. Remove gross debris (food, feces, enrichment) from the cage by spraying with a hose.
13. Remove all enrichment devices, toys, porches, plastic hides, and tunnels (if present).
  - a. Note: Leave mirrors on the cages
14. Apply tuberculocidal disinfectant using a spray pump, foamer or spray bottle to the dirty cage, then bring the cage to dirty cage wash or stage the cage in the hallway outside dirty cage wash.
  - a. Use extreme care so that the chemical does not come in contact with the animal(s) in neighboring cages.

**Cage Transfer:**

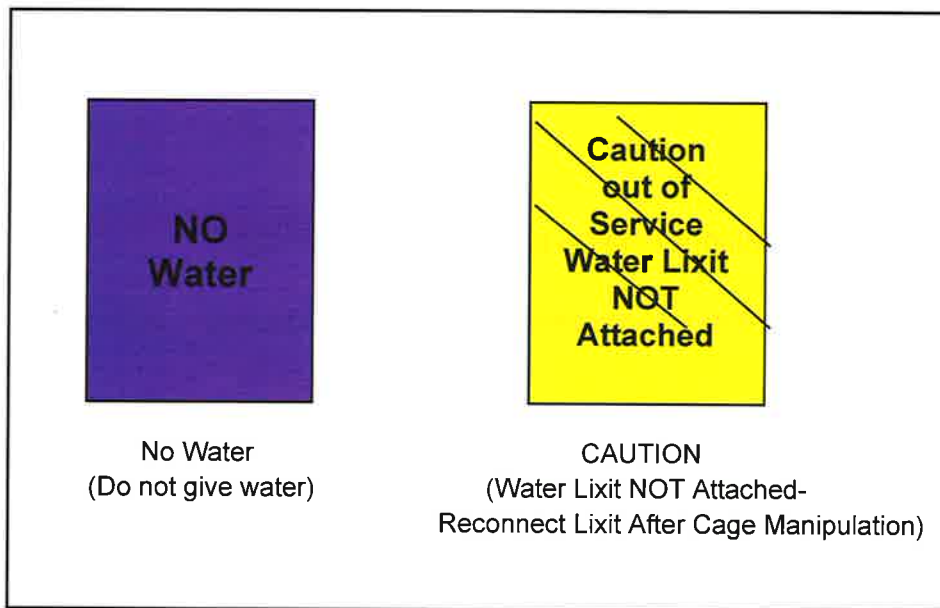
1. Move a clean cage from the hallway into the middle of the housing room.
2. Connect the clean cage to the dirty cage & secure the 2 cages together by carabiner and/or spring pin latch.
3. Inspect the clean cage and ensure all doors, locks, and panels are closed and locked.

4. Shift animal(s) to the clean cage by opening the interior doors to each cage, allowing the animal(s) to shift to the clean cage from the dirty cage.
  - a. Note: Some animals may need to be separated first to the top and bottom of the dirty cage in order to shift to the clean cage successfully.
5. Ensure all animal(s) have shifted to the clean cage, then close & lock all doors between the clean AND dirty cages.
6. Inspect the clean cage now containing animal(s) and ensure all doors, locks, and panels are closed and locked.
  - a. Use carabiners (if applicable) on the side of cages when cages are not attached together to prevent animal escape.
7. Separate the dirty and clean cages and move the cages to the periphery of the housing room, placing dirty cages on one side of the room and clean cages on the other side.
  - a. Stage cages away from other occupied cages with particularly "grabby" animals.
8. Shift all animal(s) to clean cages and then process the dirty empty cages and bring them to the cage wash.

#### **Room Cleaning & Setup:**

1. Stage all clean cages containing animal(s) on one side of the room.
2. Spray the floors and walls of the unoccupied half of the housing room with a hose and remove all gross debris.
3. Apply tuberculocidal disinfectant using a spray pump, foamer or bottle to the cleaned half of the housing room floors and walls.
  - a. Use extreme care so that the chemical does not come in contact with the animal(s) in neighboring cages.
  - b. Wait for the contact time of the disinfectant, then thoroughly rinse with water.
4. Inspect floor and walls and spot clean any rust with CLR. Thoroughly rinse the area with water after spot cleaning.
  - a. NEVER mix chemicals.
5. Move all clean cages containing animal(s) to the cleaned side of the room.
6. Clean the other side of the room following the above procedure.
7. Move animal(s) to their designated area in the housing room according to the "NHP Map" document and attach additional cages, porches, and towers (if applicable).
  - a. Place plastic tubes between adjoining cages (if applicable) to prevent animal(s) from reaching down through gaps and accessing water on floor or in cage pans.

8. Inspect each cage and ensure all locks and carabiners are present.
  - a. Place locks on cage doors, ends of cage doors, and in between cages of animals that are not paired to prevent accidental pairing.
9. Open doors between cage units (if applicable) according to the "NHP Map".
10. Reconnect automatic watering hose (i.e. lixit) for animals that do not have a purple "NO WATER" tag.
  - a. Open the lower nozzle of the automatic water line at the back of the cage to ensure that all air has been flushed out by water. Close the nozzle once water flows through and no air is present.
  - b. Remove the neon yellow caution tag on the wall attachment for the automatic watering pipe to indicate that the animal's cage has been connected to the automatic watering line.
  - c. Test each lixit inside the cage(s) using a pole or other approved device to ensure each animal has access to water.



11. Secure the clean cages to the wall bracket by clipping the wall chain to the cage.
12. Lock the wheels of the cages.

### Cage Cleaning:

1. Bring dirty cages to the dirty cage wash area.
2. Flush all cage water lines and automatic watering hoses with appropriate dilution of bleach solution.

- a. Attach the wall mounted automatic watering line to the connection port on the upper portion of the back of the cage.
  - b. Open the bottom connection port on the cage by rotating the head counterclockwise, this will allow the water to exit/flush through the lines.
  - c. Place an empty mop bucket under the connection port on the cage to catch flushed water.
  - d. Select the "Treated Flush" cycle on the wall mounted Edstrom flush system.
  - e. When ready to flush, press the orange start button on the Edstrom flush system. The lines will flush for a pre-set amount of time.
  - f. If water does not flush out from the line, contact the facility supervisor.
  - g. Once flushing is complete, detach the automatic watering line from the cage.
3. Close all socialization panels and doors and remove locks before washing. Place a carabiner on all sliding doors to prevent accidental opening during washing.
  4. Place NHP cages into the rack washer, ensuring the cages have a small gap between the cages and walls/doors, and are centered so they do not obstruct the spray jets.
  5. Close the door to the rack washer and select the "NHP" cycle and press "Start".
  6. Mop the NHP hallway and dirty side of cage wash with appropriate dilution of tuberculocidal disinfectant after cage change is complete.
  7. Disinfect all walls, doors, and door handles in the NHP hallway and dirty side cage wash.
  8. Remove cage changing/washing in progress signage once the hallway and cage wash is disinfected.

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

REVISION HISTORY			
REVISION NUMBER	AUTHOR(S)	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION(S)