



OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL CARE

Operating Guidelines

OG Number:	303	Nonhuman Primate Escape	Revision #:	0
Date Effective:	11/6/23		Supersedes:	0

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Procedures

1. In the event a nonhuman primate (NHP) escapes from its cage inside the animal room or the laboratory:
 - a. All personnel must leave the room as calmly and quietly as possible and close the door, ensuring that the escaped animal stays within the room.
 - b. Back out of the room as necessary to keep sight of the escaped animal.
 - c. Do not attempt to capture the animal.
 - d. Post a sign on the door (available in anteroom PPE cabinet) saying, **ANIMAL LOOSE - DO NOT ENTER.**
 - e. **Call 3-VETS (3-8387) and/or contact veterinary staff directly for veterinary assistance.**
 - Wait by the door and do not allow anyone to enter the room until a designated staff member arrives.
 - **Do not attempt to capture an escaped NHP alone.**
2. At the discretion of the veterinary staff and supervisor, if the escaped animal is deemed not to be causing a disturbance by fighting with other animals within the room:
 - a. First attempt to recapture by placing food treats inside the escaped NHP's home cage.
 - b. Leather catch gloves may be worn by personnel for additional protection.
 - c. Open all empty cages in the housing room to increase the available opportunities for the NHP to return to a cage.

3. Capture may be attempted by trained staff using a net or pole.
 - a. Once netted, the NHP may be returned to an empty lower cage.
 - b. Enticed into a jump box to return to the home cage.
 - c. If the NHP is unable to be returned in this manner, restraint by personnel wearing leather catch gloves and/or using a cage grid may be utilized.
 - Administer ketamine intramuscularly (IM) for sedation.
4. If initial attempts to net the escaped NHP are unsuccessful, roll cage racks out of the housing room to facilitate capture.
 - a. The NHP's home cage may remain or also be rolled out of the housing room, depending on the situation.
 - b. If all cages have been removed, the NHP will need to be placed in a jump box once netted or restrained as described above and sedated.
5. If all other methods are unsuccessful, it may be necessary to dart the animal in a large muscle mass (the thigh is preferred).
 - a. This procedure can only be performed by a trained veterinary staff member.
 - b. Darts and blowpipe(s) are located in the LKS veterinary clinic.
 - c. Doses and drugs to be used are determined by veterinary discretion, but may include ketamine, dexmedetomidine, midazolam, or other sedatives/anesthetics.
 - d. Alternatively, the calculated dosage of drugs can be sprayed into the monkey's mouth.
6. After the animal has been successfully darted or returned to its cage, the room must be secured, and the veterinary staff will carefully examine the animal for injuries due to the escape and recapture.
 - a. Additional sedation may be required.
 - b. The cage and locks must be carefully checked to assess the mode of escape, if not already known.
 - c. The animal must be monitored until fully recovered from sedation.
7. After the animal has been returned to its cage, check all animals in the room for any injuries, and verify all identifications and locations.
8. A complete description of the incident must be recorded in the animal's health record. The Facility Supervisor or Veterinarian will notify the PI of the incident, if not already done during the recapture.

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