

- SOP No:** AHT 16
- SUBJECT:** Base of tail subcutaneous (SC) injection into the mouse
- POLICY:** This procedure may only be performed by operators skilled in the technique.
The amount to be injected must not exceed the recommended volume for this route and site of injection as per NHMRC guidelines.
- PRECAUTIONS:** Gloves, eye protection, long-sleeved gown, closed in shoes
- EQUIPMENT:** Restraint device
1 ml syringe
25 g needle
Tissues
1% solution Virkon in spray bottle
70 % Ethanol in a spray bottle
Chemical to be injected
Recovery cage
- PROCEDURE:**
- Restrain the mouse.
 - Spray the base of the tail with 70% ethanol and gently part the fur at the base of the tail.
 - Hold the needle in the same plane as the tail meets the body and insert the needle subcutaneously. The needle should enter the skin where the base of the tail meets the body.
 - Slowly inject the material ensuring that the needle has been inserted correctly and that an intradermal “bleb” does not appear.
 - Remove the mouse from the restraint and place into a separate cage. Repeat the procedure for the remaining animals to be injected remembering to change the needle between animals.
 - Carefully monitor all the injected animals for 15min to ensure that they are displaying normal behaviour
 - Record the details of the injection on the cage card and room diary. This should include the date of injection, material injected and route of injection.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

DATE ISSUED: **28.10.2009**

REVISED:

REFERENCES

1. **National Health and Medical Research Council (2008); Guidelines to Promote the Wellbeing of Animals Used for Scientific Purposes – The assessment and Alleviation of Pain and Distress in Research Animals.**
<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/index.htm>