

SOP No: AHT 28(b)

SUBJECT: Transportation of Laboratory Rats and Mice – ROAD

PRECAUTIONS: Animal transportation should not be undertaken if an animal is likely to be exposed to temperature extremes. Avoid transporting heavily pregnant animals or those in early lactation. All cage furniture or food and water receptacles that are not fixed must be removed before transport.

POLICY: All laboratory animals that are to be used in UQ Laboratory Animal Facilities must be arranged through UQ Biological resources. This is to ensure animals can be sourced from the closest appropriate supplier and that appropriate transport conditions are in place. All reasonable attempts should be made to minimise stress to animals which may include:-

- Transporting with cage mates
- Transporting in home cages (if secure)
- Glucose blocks.
- Provide a nutrition/water source e.g. Agar/water/ Darkened environment, Low noise

Minimum duration

Animals which are not sourced from or being introduced into UQBR facilities should follow all other directives within this SOP when transporting animals approved by UQ AEC's

EQUIPMENT: specially constructed transport boxes or secured home cages, nutrition/hydration packs.

PROCEDURE:

- 1 Only specially constructed animal transport cages or secure home cages should be used.
- 2 Road transport should be undertaken in Air conditioned vehicles by accredited animal transport providers or trained animal technicians.
- 3 Cages must be secured in the vehicles.
- 4 Transport time should be minimized and animals re-housed into appropriate cage groups as soon as possible.
- 5 Caution should be exercised when mixing adult males for transport. Animals should be monitored for aggression and re-housed into separate cages on arrival.
- 6 Animals subject to a Notifiable Low Risk Dealing (NLRD) from the OGTR eg. Genetically modified animals can only be transported between PC1 or

above accredited facilities. The primary cage must be inside a secondary secure container and the act of transporting covered by the NLRD.

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REVISED: