

SOP No: AHT 34

SUBJECT: Terminal Bleed (Rat or Mouse)

POLICY:

PRECAUTIONS: Gloves, eye protection, long-sleeve gown and closed in shoes.

EQUIPMENT: anaesthetic
blood collection tubes
1 or 2ml syringe with 25-gauge needle (mouse).
10ml syringe with 21-gauge needle (rat).

PROCEDURE:

1. Anaesthetise rat/mouse with anaesthetic of choice (specify dose rate, route of injection and volume).
2. Insert the needle into the chest cavity where the strongest heartbeat is felt.
3. When blood is observed in the hub of the needle, draw back gently on the syringe.
4. Once the desired amount of blood has been withdrawn, euthanase the animal using an overdose of anaesthetic/CO₂/cervical dislocation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Do not make > 2 –3 attempts if the bleed has been unsuccessful.

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CHAIR OF UAEC

REFERENCES

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3. J. Donovan and P. Brown. Blood Collection. In: Current Protocols in Immunology, (eds: A. Kruisbeek et al), John Wiley & Sons, New York, NY, USA, Unit 1.7.