

SOP No: AHT 37

SUBJECT: Euthanasia of Mice (Neonates → 10 days)

POLICY: CO₂ should not be used on neonates.

PRECAUTIONS: Gloves, eye protection, mask, long-sleeved gown, closed in shoes.

EQUIPMENT: freezer (or)
sharp scissors

PROCEDURE:

1. Place neonates directly into the freezer (or).
2. Place pups on firm surface and quickly decapitate using a cutting action of the scissors.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Method 2 is recommended for older pups.

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REFERENCES

Phifer CB, Terry LM. 1986. Use of hypothermia for general anesthesia in preweanling rodents. *Physiol & Behav* 38:887-890.