

SOP No: AHT 43

SUBJECT: Tail Tipping in Mice

POLICY: This procedure must be performed by an experienced operator.
The amount of tail to be removed must not exceed 0.5 cms.
Tail tipping may only be performed once unless otherwise approved by the AEC.
Mice >21 days must be anaesthetised.

PRECAUTIONS: Gloves, mask, long-sleeve gown, closed in shoes.

EQUIPMENT: scalpel blade or
sharp scissors
anaesthetic (for mice >21 days).

PROCEDURE:

1. Hold the mice by the scruff or anaesthetise mouse.
2. Using scissors or scalpel blade cut off no more than 0.5cm of the tail tip.
3. Apply pressure with a sterile swab to encourage clotting.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Consider alternative sources of DNA (faecal sample, skin or buccal epithelial cells).
2. Divide the sample and store one half
3. Ideally mice should be tail tipped when <14 days or at weaning.

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REFERENCES

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