

TO: All Faculty, Staff, Postdocs, and Students

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RE: CCMS COVID-19 Vivarium Research Ramp-Up Guidelines

CCMS Ramp up strategy guidelines:

*****COVID-19 work is essential and will continue to be supported at 100%.**

Animal Orders/Breeding

- For non COVID-19 aims, requests for animal orders and intra-campus transfers will be allotted a ramp up to support 25% of normal research demands and will be evaluated on a case by case basis by CCMS Director. Imports and exports will be reviewed and supported similarly.
- A ramp up to support 25% of normal on-site breeding of critical research animals will be allowed and we urge investigators to protect their critical lines by cryopreservation or other means.
- Within the ramp up, research related activities should support absolutely essential aims for ongoing studies or the health of the animal/line.

Scheduling access and controlling social distancing in the vivarium

Personal Protective Equipment

- Investigators entering the vivarium are required to follow the mask requirements established for general entry to the campus.
- Surgical masks will be worn for survival surgery and all other protocols for which we have used these historically.

- Standard PPE (gown, hair bonnet, gloves for procedures) is required when entering the vivarium. (Homemade masks are NOT appropriate for use within the vivarium).
Social Distancing in the vivarium
- **No more than two people** in any common area including vivarium elevator lobbies, locker/rest rooms, breakrooms, gowning/de-gowning area.
- All investigators must schedule work time in the vivarium to limit the number of people in procedure and housing rooms. No more than two people/lab/time slot in large housing or procedure rooms and one person in small housing and procedure rooms. (Small rooms are those considered unable to achieve 6 feet physical distancing).
- Investigators will use the **Microsoft Outlook** room scheduling system (instructions available on CCMS website) to schedule both the use of housing and procedure rooms in **blocks of no more than 2 hours**. The facility supervisor will take steps to ensure equal access. (More than 2 hours needs to be justified and approved by Facility Veterinarian, or designee.)
- Investigators with time scheduled in housing or procedure rooms can enter areas where they are not scheduled for a brief period (**NO MORE THAN 5 MINUTES**) to retrieve/return cages or supplies, quickly check a cage of animals, etc.
- Human and animal health and welfare are a priority. Time will be blocked in the Microsoft Outlook scheduling system for CCMS staff to complete their daily activities (husbandry/clinical) and allow them to maintain social distancing.

CCMS Staffing

- Animal care staff and veterinary technical staff are currently reporting to work daily at a staggered density and tours to support social distancing.
- Additional CCMS staff will increase on site presence and functionality as workloads dictate within the ramp up.