

**IACUC-approved exception to 9CFR3.81 (14-R-0009)**

**Justification for Single Housing of Non-human Primates (Rhesus Macaque, n = 31):  
Laboratory for Cognitive Neurobiology**

Animals that are singly housed are involved in longitudinal studies that require behavioral testing of cognitive and motor functions before and after surgical procedures. The number of NHPs needed for these studies has been minimized by using a study design that collects behavioral and other data and compares it to a historical database of results on these same tasks collected on over 200 singly-housed NHPs over the last 20 years. Because animal performance on behavioral tests can be affected by many social, emotional and physical factors, a change in practice from single housing to pair housing macaques in the middle of this ongoing study would add an uncontrollable variable to the behavioral results that potentially will confound the historical interpretation of results possibly negating the comparison to animals assessed over the past 20 years.

While the animals are not pair housed, they are housed in a semi-social setting. This means that, although the animals are individually housed, they are in close proximity to one another in two nearly parallel rows with the front of the cages facing the middle of the room, thus allowing the animals visual, olfactory, and auditory interactions.

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