

17 NOV 2017

Research Facility Summary of Exceptions 2016-2017
Registration No. 34-R-0025

An exception to the standards and regulations under the Act, involves non-human primate caging during 2016-2017. Wall mounted non-human primate caging was used in portable rolling racks in various animal rooms. The cages provide approximately 4.2 ft² of floor space rather than the 4.3 ft² required for non-human primates between 3 to 10 kg. Cage height is 34.6 inches. The cages slant outward from the bottom and the total volume is greater than 12.0 ft³. Height and volume are both above the required 30 inch height and 10.75 ft³ volume. The guidelines state that innovative primary enclosures not precisely meeting the floor area and height requirements, but that do provide a sufficient volume of space and opportunity to express species typical behavior may be used when approved by the IACUC. The cage measurements and a study in which primate behavior (macaques and baboons) was compared between animals housed in caging similar to the ones in question at NBR and those of 4.5 ft² floor space were discussed. The study discovered no behavioral evidence that a 4.0 ft² variant cage was not a suitable substitute for a 4.5 ft² floor area cage. The Animal Care and Use Committee approved the use of the 4.2 ft² floor area, 34.6 inch height and > 12.0 ft³ volume cages for animals up to 10 kg weight range. A total of 255 cynomolgus and rhesus monkeys were housed in these cages at various times during the period of October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017.