

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SOP# 025.6

Date Issued: 1/03

Date Revised: 4/18

Page 1 of 2

TITLE:	Photography of Animals or Within Animal Facilities
SCOPE:	All Animal Program Personnel
RESPONSIBILITY:	Veterinary Staff, Facility Managers, All Animal Personnel & Research Staff
PURPOSE:	To Outline Procedures for Vivarium Photography

I. PURPOSE

1. To define the appropriate acquisition and use of photographic images of animals, or of the interior of animal facilities/laboratories.

II. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Veterinarians oversee all aspects of animal health, care, and use, and are assisted by all program staff.
2. Facility Managers assist in the implementation of all procedures.
3. All faculty, research, veterinary, technical and animal care staff, as well as uncertified personnel are required to follow these guidelines.

III. PROCEDURES

1. Visits by uncertified personnel (e.g., press personnel or lab attendees) to animal facilities introduce the potential of disruptions that can affect animal species and the studies animals are involved in. Even the entry and passage of personnel unaccustomed to working around animals, the noise of their discussions, and the flash or flood of bright lights used in recording sessions introduce the risk of exposure to altered environmental conditions and infectious agents, which can affect animal welfare and the consistency of results. Uncertified personnel visiting facilities are at risk of exposures, including zoonotic infectious agents, which can affect public welfare.
2. Consequently, photography by uncertified personnel of any animal, or gross anatomical tissues derived from animals, personnel within animal facilities, or of the interior of facilities maintained by the Division of Comparative Medicine can proceed only after a request is made to, and approved by Comparative Medicine, and the public relations officers or administrators of University affiliate hospitals or hosting sites, as appropriate, granting permission for such photography. If animals will be photographed, approval is also required from the Principle Investigator of the protocol under which the research animals are held. These requests take into consideration the potential hazards to animals or personnel that accompany the proposed photography session, and ensure animal and public welfare. Permission is granted in writing using **CMDC #209 Photography Permission Form** which will be held by the individual while taking

photographs.

3. Photographs can be taken by IACUC-certified research personnel only if images involve those animals held on behalf of the IACUC-certified research personnel.
4. Photographs of animals, gross anatomical tissues, personnel, or facilities taken by the research, veterinary, or animal care staff can be used only for technical training, diagnostic, research, teaching, or publication purposes.
5. Photographs involving animals, animal procedures, gross anatomical tissues, or animal facilities or personnel must incorporate humane animal practices, and appropriate occupational safety practices, including precautions to prevent zoonotic disease exposure (e.g., the use of gloves, clean lab coat, mask, eye protection) when warranted.

Approved:

Date: