

**IACUC-approved exceptions to AWA regulations and standards:**Cleaning, sanitization, housekeeping, and pest control §3.84 (b) (2)

A number of baboon cages may be machine sanitized at three-four week intervals rather than the required two-week interval. These are cages in which baboons that have been fitted with chronically indwelling intravenous or intragastric catheters, which are protected by a tether and harness system. The back of the cage contains an instrument panel with levers that the baboon uses to produce food pellets and /or drug delivery. To sanitize the cages, the animals must be chemically restrained (e.g., ketamine hydrochloride), removed from the cage, and the system dismantled. The baboon must be chemically restrained until the cage wash is complete and the system reassembled (about 30 min). (This time is used to perform a physical examination of the baboon, shave and scrub the catheter exit site, clip nails, clean teeth, obtain a body weight, etc). For some studies, the administration of a drug like ketamine and the interruption of daily experimental assessment would introduce a potentially confounding variable if an arbitrary two-week interval is necessary. At the request of the investigator, the IACUC approved a maximum interval of up to 4 weeks between machine sanitization. All other routine husbandry procedures, including the cleaning of cage pans, are done on schedule. In addition, some cleaning of the cage bars can be accomplished when the baboon is in the cage to maintain the environment as clean as possible. This exception was required (extension to 3 weeks) on occasion for a total of 3 animals during this reporting period.

Primary enclosures §3.80(b) (2) (i)

An exception to the floor area per animal required for baboons larger than 25 kg was approved. That is, baboons greater than 25 kg were approved for housing in cages with floor area of 10 square feet and a cage height of 57 inches, which is higher than required for Group 5 cages. This exception was approved due to scientific requirements of the research in that the 10-square-foot cage serves as the experimental chamber, and has specialized equipment and computer connections; in some cases, the baboon also has a chronically indwelling intravenous or intragastric catheter protected by a double anaconda cable attached to a liquid swivel system. The length of this cable is sufficient to allow the baboon full range of motion in the cage of this size; a longer cable would be problematic for the study. During the reporting period, a total of 12 baboons were covered under this exception.

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