Summary of IACUC approved exception to standards and regulations of AWA

Registration Number: 31-R-0014/216

Approved by IACUC:

Space Requirements §3.128: Piglets and calves are used in gnotobiotic studies, which require that they are maintained in primary enclosures that allow animals to make postural adjustments without impedance during the initial stage of the study, but that result in the touching of enclosures during normal postural adjustments during the final stage of the study. Piglets and calves are in the cages from birth up to 56 days. This exception involved 4 calves and 411 piglets during this reporting period.

Space Requirements §3.28 (c.2.ii): Hamsters are housed in individually ventilated cages with a height of 5 ½ inches for up to 21 days post-viral inoculation. Due to the urgent need for COVID-19 research during the pandemic, as well as biocontainment requirements for this agent, this type of caging was preferred for this study based on biosecurity and the short duration of the experiment. The veterinary staff assessed the hamsters regularly during the study and found no adverse effects from the ½ inch reduced height compared to the AWA standard height of 6 inches. During this reporting period, 25 hamsters were housed in these cages.