

Introduction/Purpose

The care and maintenance of Immune suppressed dog/puppies in a research facility requires special consideration and precautions by all individuals who provide this species with its basic comforts and needs. The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure is to outline the animal care requirements associated with the daily husbandry of Immune suppressed dog/puppies to ensure consistent and uniform care.

II. Procedures

A. Health and safety

1. Animal

- a. A very common error is to assume that overt signs of illness seen in an animal are a product of research, and not necessarily an indication of the animal's health. **Any time that a dog/puppy shows signs of stress or disease, complete and turn in a Sick Animal Report.**
- b. If the nature of the problem poses an immediate threat to the dogs/puppy's health, contact Veterinary Services immediately.

2. Animal technician /restraint

- a. Immune suppressed dog/puppies in a research facility require special consideration and precautions by all individuals.
- b. Adult dogs and puppies can bite. If a bite occurs, report to your supervisor immediately. Wash the wound with soap and water, and complete an Incident/Accident report.
- c. Before personnel enter the Immune suppressed dog/puppies room they will wash hands and forearms thoroughly and dress in PPE according to door signage.

B. Environment

1. Room Temperature range: 68-84 degrees F.
2. Humidity: approximately 30 – 70%
3. A diurnal lighting cycle should be provided with 12 hrs light and 12 hrs dark

4. Ventilation: at least 15 fresh air changes per hour are needed per room. These rooms should have positive ventilation. If there is a problem with the ventilation, contact the supervisor immediately.
5. Dogs/puppies will be housed on Aspen shavings
6. Environmental enrichment will be provided to immune suppressed dogs/puppies per SOP B.1067 Environmental Enrichment for Dogs.

C. Housing

1. Each dog/puppy will be housed with appropriate amount of space per The Guide to the Care and Use of Animals, 8th Edition, page 59. Immune suppressed dogs/puppies may be group housed whenever possible, (see SOP 1067 Environmental Enrichment for Dogs,) however, they must be housed in a separate room from all other animals.
2. These dogs/puppies are immune suppressed for the duration of their studies, so only the minimal number of trained personnel will be allowed into the room with the dogs/puppies. Additionally, it is optimal that personnel handling immune suppressed dogs/puppies not have contact with other dogs before entering the room.
3. If personnel have had contact with other dog/puppies during the course of the day, they **must** wash hands and forearms thoroughly and should change into fresh scrubs before entering the immune suppressed dog/puppies room.
- 4.

D. Food and water requirements

1. Immune suppressed dogs/puppies will have access to fresh water at all times.
2. For the puppies that are smaller in size, a perch will be placed under the automatic water bowls which will allow the puppies to reach water.
3. Feed immune suppressed dogs/puppies according to feeding schedule set by husbandry supervisor. Each dog/puppy may need to be fed apart from others, (this may require a physical barrier be put into place,) and monitored while eating to allow enough time for each to eat his own food.
4. Check for any "Do not Feed" Special Requests. **Special diets will be fed per special service request only.**

E. Care

1. First thing each morning
 - a. Check for sick or dead animals and fill out Sick/Dead animal report as indicated.

- b. Give food and water as directed above.
- 2. Routine - at about the same time each day
 - a. Move dogs/puppies to an empty kennel.
 - b. Scoop up all feces and urine soaked bedding and if present, remove soiled perch. Dispose of feces and urine soaked shavings in trash receptacle. Replace removed bedding with equal amount of new Aspen shavings. If perch is being used, replace soiled perch with a clean dry one.
 - c. Check and/or change environmental enrichment items used.
 - d. Fill out Daily Animal Care log, marking off tasks as they are completed.
- 3. Daily care, PM
 - a. Check autowater dish.
 - b. Give food as directed above.
 - c. Check for any "Do not Feed" Special Requests. **Special diets will be fed per special service request only.**
 - d. Scoop up all feces and urine soaked bedding and if present, remove soiled perch. Dispose of feces and urine soaked shavings in trash receptacle. Replace removed bedding with equal amount of new Aspen shavings. If being perch is being used, replace soiled perch with a clean dry one.
 - e. Fill out Daily Animal Care log, marking off tasks as they are completed.
- 4. Weekly care
 - a. One day each week, dogs/puppies will be moved to a portable kennel. Shavings will be completely removed and the run will be swept clean and then sanitized with Kennasol. After sanitizing, rinse the run well and squeegee dry so that puppies do not come into contact with Kennasol or any standing water.
 - b. Add new shavings to run and add a clean perch if they are being used.
 - c. Remove dogs/puppies from portable kennel and place into clean run.
- F. Special care/special requests
 - 1. Follow all SPF procedures posted on room door and inside the room.

2. Proper PPE will be used by all personnel entering the room: Tyvek suit, booties, bonnet and gloves. The Tyvek suits will be hung on hooks in the room after use. Soiled Tyvek will be discarded. Once weekly the animal husbandry technician will remove all Tyvek suits from the hooks and discard them.
2. All food dishes and environmental enrichment items used must be reserved only for these immune suppressed dogs/puppies and must not come in contact with any other canines. Other equipment used in this room may not be used for any other dog/puppies. All items must be marked with identification designating for immune suppressed dogs/puppies only.

III.Revision/Approval

SOP Created:	12/19/07
Document/File Name:	B.1085
Prepared by:	L. Campbell, V. Sillers
Reviewed by:	P. Morris
Approved by:	D. Molk