

This protocol will be performed under ABSL-3/4 conditions, therefore requiring an exception to standard cage sanitizing procedures due to the logistical confinements and safety considerations of moving cages in and out of the containment suite. Instead of cages and racks being sanitized a minimum of every 2 weeks in a mechanical washer; they will be manually sanitized in place in the containment suite. Daily cleaning and husbandry will be performed according to standard procedures listed in SOP. Procedures will be performed in a manner to ensure that animals remain dry at all times and do not come in contact with any sanitizing agents. Cages will be evaluated daily by the VMD personnel and when, in the opinion of the personnel and Chief of the Animal Husbandry and Central Supply, cages can no longer be appropriately sanitized in place, they will be replaced with mechanically sanitized caging. In addition, when animals are present in containment suites, the feeding schedule will be reduced to once daily. VMD personnel will provide a daily supply of food each morning for the animals.