

COLUMN E EXPLANATION

Facility Name: Massachusetts Eye & Ear

FY 2018

Registration Number: 14-R-0022

Rhesus monkeys are restrained for vestibular and perception testing. During testing, the animal's head is held in a fixed, forward facing position. Rhesus monkeys are restrained in size-appropriate primate chairs. All animals undergoing vestibular and perception testing are acclimated to accept the restraint procedures, however, the potential for distress is unavoidable in conscious, restrained animals.

During acoustic brain recordings in conscious rabbits the animal is restrained in a Velcro jacket while the head is held in a fixed, forward facing position. The animals have been previously acclimated to accept the restraint procedure; however the potential for distress is unavoidable during measurements in conscious, restrained animals.

The scientific justification for why the potential for distress cannot be relieved is the same for all the Category E procedures described above, as follows:

There is no alternative to performing vestibular and perception studies or acoustic neuronal measurements in conscious animals without restraint and withholding agents that would sedate or tranquilize them. All species utilized for these studies are trained and acclimated well to the restraint and testing procedures described above. The animals do not appear distressed either during or following repeated measurements, however, if an animal shows signs of distress at any time during an experimental procedure, the experiment for that day is canceled.

30 NOV 2018