Category E Explanation

Guinea pigs (4) category E
Water restriction: It is necessary to restrict Guinea pigs' access to water to get them to accurately perform auditory discriminations. No alternative procedures were found that would motivate Guinea pigs to reliably perform auditory discriminations without withholding water. Water is removed from their home cage and made available in the test cage during a single daily testing session of approximately 30-60 minutes. Supplemental water is provided as needed to maintain a healthy body weight (80% or more of their ad lib weight). The animals are put on free water when not on test (e.g., weekends, holidays). The animals' body weights and health are monitored and recorded daily by the trainer while the animals are on test.

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