



Animal Health and Pathogen Remediation SOP

Updated February 16, 2016

Animal health should be a critical concern to every researcher seeking to obtain meaningful and reproducible experimental results. The goal of the MMRRC health-monitoring program is to ensure that all mice distributed are free of infectious pathogens. From the moment of their arrival at an MMRRC facility, every MMRRC mouse strain is maintained with strict biosecurity SOPs and are the subject of rigorous health monitoring programs with extensive exclusion lists that include all known pathogens of mice and the vast majority of opportunists. The major components of the MMRRC programs include:

- Rederivation of all donated animals via embryo transfer or hysterectomy rederivation into a barrier environment.
- For mouse strains maintained as a live colony, the infection status of each production colony will be tested at regular intervals via either direct colony monitoring or sentinel programs (See MMRRC Health Screening Overview for agents tested).
- For cryo-recovered mouse strains, the infection status will be tested either via testing of surrogate mothers or via sentinel programs.
- For Centers that distribute cells and tissue, donors or colonies from which donors are obtained, will be similarly tested.
- If positive results are obtained for excluded organisms, the MMRRC will confirm the positive result and,
 - Shipment of mice involved in the contamination will be suspended.
 - Within 2 business days of definitive diagnosis, a notice will be placed on the MMRRC website.
 - Notification will be sent to institutions on the MMRRC mailing list.

For specific details of the animal health program and outbreak response at a specific MMRRC, please see:

[MMRRC at the University of California Davis](#)

[MMRRC at the University of Missouri](#)

[MMRRC at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill](#)

[MMRRC at The Jackson Laboratory](#)