



Date 20151013

Name AL

## Standard Operating Procedure Labeling of Mice

Pages

### Color Marking

1. Put the mouse onto the cage grid and hold its tail.
2. Use an ethanol-resistant pen to label the tail with the other hand.
3. Color marking can be used if a few animals have to be short-time distinguishable. Color marking does not last very long and needs to be renewed in time (not feasible for high numbers of mice or duration of experiments of more than a few days).

### Shave

1. Put the mouse onto the cage grid and hold its tail.
2. Use an electric shaver to remove some of the fur above its tail base with the other hand.

### Micro Tattooing

1. Demobilize mouse by gripping neck-skin between thumb and index-finger
2. Use sterile 30Gauge needle and Ketchum Green Tattoo Paste to mark mice by tattooing the tail
3. Clean off excess paste using a sterile gaze

### Ear punching

1. Demobilize mouse by gripping neck-skin between thumb and index-finger
2. Use a sterile scissor to cut into the ear or pincers to punch the ear. If possible, try to punch hemicycles only.

### Toe clipping

1. Pick up a pup by the scruff of the neck with thumb and forefinger
2. Fix one foot between two other fingers of the same hand
3. Cut a toe with a sterile sharp pair of small dissecting scissors directly proximal to the first interphalangeal joint. It is important to dissect the tissue proximal to the first interphalangeal joint to prevent it from growing again.
4. Swiss law allows toe-clipping up to 12 days of age. Anyway, 7 to 9 days are considered the most appropriate age for this procedure.