|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ACEC No: | Cage#: | Animal ID: |
| Researcher / Trainer: | Species/Strain: | Sex/Age: |
| Phone: | Date performed: |
| Email: | Procedure: |
| Day post-procedure: | Day x | Day x | Day x | Day x | Day x | Day x | Day x | Day x |
| Date of monitoring: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **CLINICAL OBSERVATION - UNDISTURBED** |
| **Activity:** normal = **0**; isolated = **1**; huddled/inactive = **2**; moribund/fitting = **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Posture:** normal = **0**; hunched = **2**; trembling = **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Movement/Gait:** normal = **0**; slight incoordination = **1**; tiptoe walking or reluctance to move = **2**; staggering/limb dragging/paralysis = **3**  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Coat condition** normal/groomed = **0**; rough = **1**; ruffled/unkempt = **2**; bleeding or infected wounds or self-mutilation = **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Eating/drinking** normal = **0**; decreased intake during the 1st 24 hrs day = **1**; decreased intake more than 1 day = **2**; decreased intake over 48hrs = **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Breathing** normal = **0**; rapid, shallow = **1**; rapid, abdominal breathing = **2**; laboured, irregular, skin blue = **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **CLINICAL OBSERVATION - ON HANDLING** |
| **Alertness:** normal = **0**; dull or depressed = **1**; little response to handling = **2**; unconscious = **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Body weight:** (gm or kg / Score)normal weight & growth rate = **0**; reduced growth weight = **1**; chronic weight loss>15% = **2**; weight loss = or >20% = **3** |  g |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Dehydration:** none = **0**; skin less elastic = **1**; skin tenting = **2**; skin tenting & sunken eyes=**3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Eyes, Nose:** normal = **0**; wetness or dull eyes = **1**; discharge/squinty eyes = **2**; coagulated nasal discharge/matted eyes = **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Faeces:** normal = **0**; moist but formed = **1**; loose, soiled peri-anal area or mucoid = **2**; watery or no faeces for 48hrs or blood = **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Urination**: normal = **0**; increased urination (wet bedding) = **2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Body temperature:\*** basal t 0 = **0**; 1 0C ↓= **1**; 2 0C ↓= **2**, >3 0C ↓ = **3** (if applicable) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Surgical wound:** wound intact, clean, dry = **0** inflamed, infected=**2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Treatment/support:** (*e.g. fluids, antibiotics, mushy food, hydrating gels, etc.)* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Other abnormalities (describe):** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Other comments:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Monitored by:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\* Body temperature measurement optional but useful as an adjunctive tool for euthanasia.

**Increased monitoring and immediate veterinary intervention required** if a score of 2 is recorded for any individual clinical observations listed above or presence of ‘other abnormalities’.

**Immediate euthanasia is required** if a score of 3 is recorded for any individual clinical observation as listed above or animal is not responsive to veterinary intervention.

**REFERENCES**

* <http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/agriculture/about-agriculture/legislation-regulation/animal-welfare-legislation/codes-of-practice-animal-welfare/care-of-laboratory-mice-rats-guinea-pigs-rabbits>
* Morton D. B. (2000). A systematic approach for establishing humane endpoints. ILAR journal, 41(2), 80–86. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ilar.41.2.80>
* Morton, D. B., & Griffiths, P. H. (1985). Guidelines on the recognition of pain, distress and discomfort in experimental animals and an hypothesis for assessment. The Veterinary record, 116(16), 431–436. <https://doi.org/10.1136/vr.116.16.431>