



Dartmouth College

Animal Care and Use Program

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

IACUC Policies and Procedures

Title: Non-Rodent Major Survival Surgery in Borwell 538E

Purpose: Whenever possible, non-rodent major survival surgery will be performed in 540E and 542E. In rare circumstances, it may be necessary to perform non-rodent major survival surgery in Borwell 538E. The purpose of this document is to describe the criteria which must be met, the approval procedures which must be followed, the room preparation which will be performed, and the procedures followed to assure that aseptic surgery is conducted.

Policy: Non-rodent major survival procedures may be in Borwell 538E when circumstances surrounding the procedure preclude the use of other recognized operating rooms. Such circumstances would include space requirement necessary to perform the procedure and/or space requirements due to the number personnel essential for the conduct of the procedure. Requests to use Borwell 538E will be reviewed by the Manager of the Surgical Facility and Attending Veterinarian who will jointly determine if the circumstances meet necessary requirements. All such procedures will be reported to the IACUC at their next scheduled meeting. If the Manager and Veterinarian cannot agree, the request will be forwarded to the IACUC for resolution. In addition, if use of this room is anticipated, 538E must be designated in the Animal use Location section of the Animal Subjects Review Form. The IACUC will closely monitor this aspect of the protocol review process.

Room Preparation:

- The room is thoroughly cleaned, including counters, floors (including under casework) and lights.
- All equipment not essential to the procedure is removed or moved into the alcove and maintained behind a full length hanging sterile drape.
- All equipment, which will come within 4 feet of the operating table, is wiped down with, or immersed in disinfectant.
- All drains, floor and sink are treated with disinfectant.

Procedures Followed:

- The animal is given pre-anesthetic and anesthesia is induced in the animal prep room.
- The animal is shaved and prepped in the animal prep room.
- The animal is then transported to the operating room where additional surgical scrubs of the incision site are performed.
- After the animal is in the room, the door leading from the hall is bolted, allowing access to the operating room only through the surgeon's scrub hallway.
- All instruments, towels and drapes are autoclaved (or otherwise sterilized if appropriate).
- All personnel who will work closer than 4 feet from the operating table are required to scrub in the prescribed manner and wear surgical scrubs, caps, masks, sterile gowns and sterile surgical gloves. (The anesthetist may wear unsterile gloves.) All other personnel must wear caps, masks and sterile gowns.
- Standard aseptic surgical technique is followed.

