

Advanced Rat Biomethodology Wet Lab – ACS893

University of Florida Animal Care Services Training Core

Target Audience: Research Staff and PIs with experience in mouse handling, self-identified as proficient

Course Type: 15min training verification

Course Description:

This course is designed to verify training in basic rat biomethodology and handling for participants that are self-identified as having sufficient experience and training to demonstrate proper techniques.

Enrollment in the UF animal contact program is required prior to course sign up. Participants are expected to have an understanding of the primary techniques they will be performing as part of the approved animal use protocol.

Course Goals:

Personnel who complete this course successfully will be able to perform and demonstrate:

- Basic restraint utilizing the C-hold and the V-hold
- Subcutaneous injection (intrascapular/dorsal lumbar)
- Intraperitoneal injection

Personnel who complete this course successfully will be able to discuss proper techniques for:

- Reporting animal health concerns to the veterinary staff
- CO₂ euthanasia and secondary physical methods for confirming euthanasia (thoracotomy)
- Methods for obtaining additional training in research techniques

Prerequisite Courses:

- [Mouse and Rat Biomethodology \(UF_ACS845_OLT\) – online course](#)

Definitions:

- **Discussion** – course instructors will briefly discuss associated procedures/policy
- **Demonstration** – course instructors will demonstrate techniques; however, participants will not be required to practice or verify skills
- **Hands-on** – course instructors will demonstrate techniques and assist participants in practicing the technique utilizing live animals
- **Verification** – participants will be required to demonstrate proficiency with the skill/technique to complete training

Topic	Discussion	Demonstration*	Hands-on*	Verification*
Acclimation of rats to handling	X	X		
Porphyrin	X			
Reporting of sick animals to veterinary care staff	X			
Basic handling – C-Hold		X		X

Topic	Discussion	Demonstration*	Hands-on*	Verification*
Basic handling – V-Hold		X		X
Research techniques – subcutaneous injection in rats		X		X
Research techniques – intraperitoneal injection in rats		X		X
Research techniques – CO ₂ euthanasia in rats**	X			
Research techniques – secondary physical assurance of euthanasia (thoracotomy)**	X	X		
Requesting additional training on specific rat techniques	X			

**All participants will be instructed to wear the proper PPE required for working with mice prior starting any activity with live animals*

*** Euthanasia demonstrations will utilize animal models (no live animal demonstrations)*

Participant Evaluation

If participants are unable to demonstrate proficiency with the skill/techniques listed for “Verification,” they will be marked as “did not pass” in myTraining within the UF training system and registration for Mouse Biotechnology – Beginner will be required. The IACUC office will be notified of the training session schedule.