

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE

SCREENING FOR RODENT BIOLOGICALS SOP

Screening for Rodent Biologicals, Including Serum, Tumors, and Cell Lines for Use in the Animal Facilities

A. RATIONALE

Pathogens diminish the quality of life for rodents by causing disease and discomfort. Pathogens can lead to the misinterpretation of scientific results as well as serve as a source of infection for disease outbreaks in animal housing facilities. Maintaining specific pathogen free (SPF) rodent colonies is essential for animal health and the continued integrity and quality of scientific research conducted at the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA).

B. POLICY

To decrease the chance of introducing rodent pathogens into the animal facilities from serum, tumors, or cell lines, and to reduce the risk of introducing zoonotic agent(s) to personnel from serum, tumor, or cell lines, these materials must be screened and confirmed to be negative before use (e.g. injection or implantation) in UTA rodents housed in these facilities.

C. APPLICABILITY

1. Materials to be tested include:
 - a. Any serum, tumor or cell line that originated from mice, rats, hamsters, gerbils, or guinea pigs that is not currently used in rodents at UTA
 - b. Any serum, tumor or cell line that originated from humans but was then passed through mice, rats, hamsters, gerbils, or guinea pigs that is not currently used in rodents at UTA

2. Materials that do not need to be tested for animal pathogens include:
 - a. Any serum, tumor or cell line determined by the IACUC during protocol review or approval, or by consensus during a convened meeting to be exempt from this policy.
 - b. Any human serum, tumor or cell line that has not been passed through mice, rats, hamsters, gerbils, or guinea pigs.
 - c. Any serum, tumor or cell line that originated from humans but was then passed through mice, rats, hamsters, gerbils, or guinea pigs that is currently used in rodents at UTA.

D. INSTRUCTIONS

1. Serum, tumor or cell lines must be screened by PCR. The investigator must have the biologicals tested for the pathogens identified below prior to first use in rodents in the UTA Animal Care Facility (ACF). Periodic testing may be requested by the UTA ACF.

a. Mouse

Standard testing includes the following agents: Minute virus of mice, Mouse parvovirus, Pneumonia virus of mice, Reovirus 3, Mouse hepatitis virus, Mouse rotavirus, Theiler’s murine encephalomyelitis virus (GD7), Sendai virus, Mycoplasma spp, Polyoma virus, K virus, Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus (LCMV), Ectromelia virus, Lactate dehydrogenase-elevating virus, and Mouse adenovirus (MAV).

b. Rat

Standard testing includes the following agents: Rat parvovirus, Pneumonia virus of mice (PVM), Reovirus3, Sialodacryoadenitis virus , Kilham’s rat virus, Toolan’s H1 virus, Theiler’s murine encephalomyelitis like virus (GDVII/rat cardiovirus), Sendai virus, Mycoplasma spp, Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus (LCMV), Hantavirus Seoul, Rat coronavirus, Rat minute virus (RMV), and Mouse adenovirus (MAV).

c. Hamster, Gerbil, Guinea Pig

Contact the UTA ACF for the specific testing required.

2. Test Panels Required

To order test panels:

Vendor	Mouse Panel	Rat Panel
IDEXX RADIL	IMPACT II + K virus	Rat IMPACT Profile V
Charles River Labs	Mouse Essential Panel + PVM and K virus	Rat Panel + PVM and MAV

E. EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the IACUC.

F. CONTACT INFORMATION

For any additional questions, please contact the IACUC Office or consult with the UTA Attending Veterinarian or ACF Manager.