

ANIMAL-BASED RESEARCH:

1. Effective March 17 until at least April 6th, no new animal orders and no initiation of invasive procedures (e.g. Irradiation/Bone Marrow transplants or surgeries) will be allowed. There may be exceptional circumstances which can be presented to the VPR or the University Veterinarian.
2. Breeding colonies must be cut back to **maintenance** levels. Any breeding of commercially available common strains (e.g. C57BL6), will be stopped. Samples required for genotyping can be obtained if an RFS is submitted, as long as there are enough staff to perform these duties. We will need the results within 48 hours if you need us to set up new pairs.
3. Researchers can obtain samples, perform quick procedures, etc. for the time being but this could change as the crisis progresses. However, access to animal facilities located at the hospital sites must follow all hospital directives, which limit non-essential access.
4. Animal Facilities staff will continue all normal duties. We cannot take on extra duties unless these are evaluated on an individual basis and weighed against the animal welfare needs so it is very important that you maintain contact with us as per item #6 below. All requests must be submitted via the RFS system.
5. Contact phone numbers and emails need to be updated with the CAF immediately. Please call M. Corrick (ext. 22564).
6. Evaluate and communicate to the Animal Facilities Management Staff your animal research plan, i.e.: identify colonies that are most valuable to your program and provide clear instructions to the Animal Facilities' staff regarding your animals' care and monitoring. Any non-invasive work on existing projects should be accelerated, if possible.
7. The CAF Administrative Staff is working remotely so it is imperative to have your access card with you at all times and follow access procedures. If you need an access card, contact the CAF as soon as possible.
8. Face-to-face training is suspended and Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) has sent a directive that all people working with animals must have completed hands-on training. Anyone not fully trained cannot work on animals alone or enter restricted rooms but they can help fully trained lab members.
9. All animal culls related to COVID-19 must be tracked and reported to CCAC. If you need to cull animals for this reason, ensure you discuss with the University Veterinarian or delegated Veterinary Staff. The University Veterinarian will be making final decisions related to animal welfare as per the Animal Research Ethics Board Terms of Reference.

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