
1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the procedures necessary for breeding and conditioning of cats originating from the CMARC in-house breeding colony prior to use by the Principal Investigator (PI).

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Principal investigator (PI) and their research staff, veterinary care staff.

3. MATERIALS

- 3.1. Identification tools: collars, microchips and microchip reader
- 3.2. Blood collection materials
- 3.3. Fecal collection containers
- 3.4. Modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia and Chlamydia (FVRCP+C)
- 3.5. Killed Rabies vaccine
- 3.6. Development Feline Diet, dry and canned
- 3.7. Feline Adult Maintenance Diet, dry and canned

4. PROCEDURES

- 4.1. If new cats are procured for breeding from an external supplier, treat them according to the Cat Conditioning Program SOP.
- 4.2. Prior to introducing breeder animals into the colony housing room:
 - 4.2.1. Collect fresh fecal sample for parasitology.
 - 4.2.2. Collect blood for serology for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) and Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV).
- 4.3. Female breeders are fed with a dry development feline diet. Males are fed with a dry maintenance diet.
- 4.4. All animals are observed at least once a week by the veterinary care staff. Any abnormal findings are reported to the veterinarian.
- 4.5. Breeders are selected for their general health and docile behavior.
- 4.6. Once the breeding pair is selected and the female shows signs of estrus (heat), place together in an enclosure until breeding is accomplished.
- 4.7. Separate the female and when pregnancy is confirmed, furnish the enclosure for the birth.
- 4.8. When the kittens are born:
 - 4.8.1. Record the date of birth.
 - 4.8.2. Prepare a medical record sheet for each kitten. If necessary, identify the kittens with collars or microchips.
- 4.9. When the kittens are 1 week of age:
 - 4.9.1. Perform a general observation
 - 4.9.2. Record body weight.
- 4.10. When the kittens are 2 weeks of age:
 - 4.10.1. Perform a general observation
 - 4.10.2. Record body weight.
 - 4.10.3. Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia and Chlamydia

- 4.11. When the kittens are 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 weeks of age:
 - 4.11.1. Perform a general observation.
 - 4.11.2. Record body weight.
 - 4.11.3. Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia and Chlamydia.
- 4.12. When the kittens are 14 weeks of age:
 - 4.12.1. Wean the kittens by sex.
 - 4.12.2. Prepare an identification card with an individual photo.
- 4.13. When the kittens are 16 weeks of age:
 - 4.13.1. Perform a physical exam.
 - 4.13.2. Record body weight.
 - 4.13.3. Vaccinate with a killed Rabies vaccine.
- 4.14. When the kittens are 5 months of age:
 - 4.14.1. Begin feeding with a dry adult maintenance diet.
- 4.15. For all breeders and kittens over 4 months of age:
 - 4.15.1. Perform a physical exam, once per month.
 - 4.15.2. Record body weight, once per month.
 - 4.15.3. Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia, once every 3 years (excluding pregnant females).
 - 4.15.4. Vaccinate with a killed rabies vaccine, once every 3 years (excluding pregnant females).
- 4.16. Retire breeders after 3 years of service or after females have had 5 litters.
- 4.17. Transfer:
 - 4.17.1. Perform a complete physical exam to determine whether or not the cat can be released for use by the PI according to the protocol.
 - 4.17.2. The animal is transferred to the PIs Animal Use Protocol.
- 4.18. Transport:
 - 4.18.1. Perform a complete physical exam to determine whether or not the cat can be released for use by the PI according to the protocol.
 - 4.18.2. The cat is weighed and the body weight is recorded on the identification card.
 - 4.18.3. Sedate according to the PIs protocol.
 - 4.18.4. Animal is placed in the transport carrier and the identification card is affixed to the carrier.
 - 4.18.5. Transport of the animal is completed as per Animal Transport and Use Outside of Animal Facilities SOP.

TIME	PROCEDURE FOR KITTENS
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open file
1 week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General observation Body weight
2 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General observation Body weight Vaccine #1 FVRCP+C
4 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General observation Body weight Vaccine #2 FVRCP+C
6 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General observation Body weight Vaccine #3 FVRCP+C
8 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General observation Body weight Vaccine #4 FVRCP+C
10 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General observation Body weight Vaccine #5 FVRCP+C
12 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General observation Body weight Vaccine #6 FVRCP+C
14 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General observation Body weight Wean the kittens
16 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General observation Body weight Rabies Vaccine
>16 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly general observation Monthly body weight Yearly FVRCP+C Vaccine (excluding pregnant females) Yearly Rabies Vaccine (excluding pregnant females)

SOP REVISION HISTORY

DATE	PREVIOUS VERSION	NEW VERSION
2017.08.30	4.15.3 Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia, once a year (excluding pregnant females).	4.15.3 Vaccinate with a modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia, once a year every 3 years (excluding pregnant females).
2017.08.30	4.15.4 Vaccinate with a killed rabies vaccine, once per year (excluding pregnant females).	4.15.4 Vaccinate with a killed rabies vaccine, once a year every 3 years (excluding pregnant females).