

1. PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) describes the procedures necessary for conditioning of cats originating from non-commercial suppliers 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. Nail clipper
- 3.3. Ear cleanser
- 3.4. Cat shampoo
- 3.5. Selamectin topical solution
- 3.6. Praziquantel, 50mg tablets
- 3.7. Fecal collection containers
- 3.8. Modified live vaccine against Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia and Chlamydia (FVRCP+C)
- 3.9. Killed Rabies vaccine
- 3.10. Feline Adult Maintenance Diet

4. PROCEDURES

- 4.1. Within 24 hours of arrival:
 - 4.1.1. Perform a complete physical exam and record observations in the Physical Examination Record.
 - 4.1.2. Prepare an identification card and, if necessary, place a collar and/or microchip the animal.
 - 4.1.3. Cut the cat's nails and clean its ears. Bathe the cat if necessary.
 - 4.1.4. Apply topical selamectin solution:
 - 4.1.4.1. Shake solution before use.
 - 4.1.4.2. Part the hair on the back of the animal at the base of the neck, in front of the shoulder blades, until the skin is visible.
 - 4.1.4.3. Apply selamectin directly onto the skin in one spot. Do not apply to wet coat or broken skin.
 - 4.1.4.4. Avoid contact between selamectin and your fingers.
 - 4.1.4.5. The recommended dose is 6 mg/kg of body weight.

WEIGHT OF CAT		VOLUME TO ADMINISTER (ml) Using the 60mg/ml concentration	VOLUME TO ADMINISTER (ml) Using the 120mg/ml concentration
kg	lb		
<2.3	<5	0.25	0.125
3-5	6-11	0.75	0.375
6-10	12-22+	1.0	0.5

4.1.5. Administer praziquantel tablets:

WEIGHT OF CAT		TABLETS
kg	lb	
<2.3	<5	0.25
3-5	6-11	0.5
6-10	12-22+	1

4.1.6. Vaccinate the cat with a modified live vaccine against: Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia and Chlamydia.

4.1.7. Vaccinate the cat with a killed Rabies vaccine.

4.1.8. If gastro-intestinal signs are present, obtain a fresh fecal sample. The veterinarian will decide on appropriate treatment depending on test results.

4.1.9. Cats are fed a feline adult maintenance dry diet and can be further supplemented with canned recovery diet as needed.

4.2. On days 2 to 13:

4.2.1. Animals are observed daily by the veterinary care staff. Any abnormal findings are reported to the veterinarian.

4.2.2. Other tests or treatments will be administered as per the veterinarian's recommendations.

4.2.3. All treatments are indicated on the Treatment Log.

4.3. On day 14:

4.3.1. Repeat selamectin treatment as in section 4.1.4.

4.3.2. Perform a complete physical exam to determine whether or not the cat can be released for use by the PI according to the protocol.

4.3.2.1. The conditioning period is extended if the cat is not in good enough condition for transfer. Treatment is then discussed with the veterinarian.

4.3.2.2. If the cat is in good condition for transfer, the conditioning period ends. Proceed to section 4.5.

4.4. After day 14:

4.4.1. Animals are observed at least twice weekly by the veterinary care staff. Any abnormal findings are reported to the veterinarian.

4.4.2. Other tests or treatments will be administered as per the veterinarian's recommendations.

4.5. Transfer:

4.5.1. Perform a complete physical exam to determine whether or not the cat can be released for use by the PI according to the protocol.

4.5.2. The animal is transferred to the PIs Animal Use Protocol.

4.6. Transport:

4.6.1. Perform a complete physical exam to determine whether or not the cat can be released for use by the PI according to the protocol.

4.6.2. The cat is weighed and the body weight is recorded on the identification card.

4.6.3. Sedate according to the PIs protocol.

4.6.4. Animal is placed in the transport carrier and the identification card is affixed to the carrier.

4.6.5. Transport of the animal is completed as per Animal Transport and Use Outside of Animal Facilities SOP.

TIME	PROCEDURE FOR ADULTS
Day 1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open file ▪ General observation ▪ Body weight ▪ Identification ▪ Cut nails, clean ears ▪ Topical selamectin treatment ▪ Oral praziquantel treatment ▪ Vaccination FVRCP + Rabies
Day 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General observation ▪ Body weight ▪ Topical selamectin treatment
Transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General observation ▪ Body weight

SOP REVISION HISTORY

DATE	PREVIOUS VERSION	NEW VERSION
2017.03.27	4.1.1. Perform a complete physical exam within 24 hours of arrival and record observations in the Physical Examination Record.	4.1.1. Perform a complete physical exam and record observations in the Physical Examination Record.
2017.03.27	4.6.1 Place a collar with the identification number and prepare an identification card.	4.6.1. Prepare an identification card and, if necessary, place a collar and/or microchip the animal.
2017.03.27	4.2.3 All treatments not included in this SOP are indicated on the Treatment Log.	4.2.3 All treatments are indicated on the Treatment Log.