Vet Care Guidelines

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Vet Care Guidelines

• Guidelines were created for the most common clinical rodent issues in order to standardize and streamline veterinary care cases.

• Simplify the process and minimize ongoing cases and encourage resolution in a more timely fashion.

• Control costs and provide better animal care.

• Most significant changes to dermatitis and fight wounds.
Vet Care Guidelines

• Vet Services has developed a scale describing the stages of dermatitis.

• Mouse dermatitis is one of the most common clinical problems in rodents on campus.

• This will encourage early intervention and, hopefully, more successful outcomes regarding these cases.
Dermatitis Scale

0- No lesion noted. No erythema noted. Considered a normal mouse.

1- Minor lesion can be noted. Lesion primarily consists of erythema. Tx may be indicated.
Dermatitis Scale

2- Lesion is dryer and less erythematous than 3. Healthy granulation tissue is predominant in the lesion.

*Treatment is indicated here.*

3- Moist lesions with erythema, severe. This lesion is not actively bleeding. Granulation tissue that is not healthy or present falls into this category.

*A veterinarian consult may be required in evaluating the case, if rodent is to be maintained in the colony.*
Dermatitis Scale

4- Lesion noted is very erythematous. Skin is completely denuded to lower levels of dermis. Full thickness lesions and those that are actively bleeding fall into this category.

A veterinarian consult may be required in evaluating the case, if rodent is to be maintained in the colony the condition must be previously justified in animal protocol.
Fight Wounds

- Separate mice (if necessary)

- Use of Carprofen Gel
  - Carprofen (NSAID) Gel treatment for 2-3 days.
  - 1 cup = 5 mice or 2 rats per day ([https://clearh2o.com/research-products/medigel/medigelsup-sup-spancpf-span.html](https://clearh2o.com/research-products/medigel/medigelsup-sup-spancpf-span.html))
  - If NSAIDS interfere with research goals, a veterinarian will check the case and determine other analgesic options.

- Euthanize mice (within 24 hours):
  - injury exposes muscle
  - there is trauma to prepuce
  - there is injury to feet/hind legs &/or abnormal gait