

ULAR Guidelines for Ramping Up Animal Research

When Drexel University reopens, ULAR plans to reopen the three university animal facilities for limited use under CDC guidelines and social distancing. Investigators based in University City whose research animals are currently located at Queen Lane will have those animals relocated to the Calhoun animal facility as soon as the move can be scheduled. ULAR personnel will continue to provide daily care for research animals on a reduced work schedule.

Animal Orders:

All animal orders should be place using the web-based order system. Orders should be limited to 33% or less of your lab's typical census. ULAR recommends starting with shorter term studies which do not require intensive care. Dr. Huneke will approve all orders. Understand that the animal vendors may have limited supply of certain strains so animal shipments may be delayed.

Animal Breeding:

During phase 1, limited breeding to support up to 33% of your experimental animal use can begin. Please send your plans to ULAR for approval noting the extent of breeding and approximate number of cages to expect as the breeding operation expands. Increases in breeding to support 66% of your experimental animal use can begin in Phase 2 with ULAR approval.

Animal Facility Access:

Only those individuals allowed access by their department to the research building will be allowed to enter the animal facilities.

PPE requirements:

Face masks are required for entry. Before entering the animal facilities, you should change your face mask to a mask provided by ULAR. Other PPE should be worn as determined by the room entry requirements or your biosafety protocol.

Social distancing:

Only one person will be allowed in an animal room, surgery area or procedural room at a time. ULAR will provide on-line sign-up sheets to schedule use of the rooms. Please minimize time in the rooms to allow access to others.

Communication to ULAR staff should be by email or phone call. Please do not come to the offices unless necessary.

Cleaning and disinfection requirements:

Sanitize all surfaces after working in the animal and procedure rooms. Accel and paper towels will be available in each room.

PPE and sanitization supplies are for use in ULAR areas only. Do not remove for personal or lab use. Supplies are limited and if unavailable, we cannot allow access to the facilities.

Hand's on Training:

Hand's on training of personnel will not be scheduled for now due to the inability to conduct training under social distancing.

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