

University of Notre Dame Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Freimann Life Science Center Policy on Animal Transportation

Animals are transferred and/or transported out of the animal facility to laboratories or satellite facilities for research, teaching, training and community outreach activities under the purview of the UND IACUC. This policy will reduce the risk of animal exposure to pathogenic agents and environmental extremes, and to prevent the exposure of personnel to animal allergens. Note: The primary insurance for personal vehicles used for transportation of animals is that of the owner of the vehicle. UND only insures transportation when conducted using UND owned or leased vehicles.

Intra-building and Inter-building Transportation of Rodents (mice, rats, hamster, gerbil)

1. When personal vehicles are used, animals will be transported in the passenger cabin with temperature controls allowing heat in the winter and cooling in the summer.
2. Individuals with known animal allergies should not transport or travel in vehicles containing the specific specie to which they are allergic.
3. To prevent accidental exposure of animals to pathogenic agents in the environment, animal caging will be fitted with a filter or solid bonnet top during transport. Primary enclosures will be placed in an opaque container with a solid lid that has been modified to allow for adequate ventilation during transportation to another location.
4. Shipping containers used by commercial animal vendors may be used in place of the filter bonnet caging within the opaque plastic transport container.
5. Transportation containers must remain closed during transport. **Do not** open the container until you have reached your destination to reduce allergen dispersal.
6. Transportation containers will be disinfected between uses.
7. When moving animals between floors, use the freight elevator or stairs. This is to reduce exposure of non-lab personnel.

Intra-building and Inter-building Transportation of Rabbits and Guinea Pigs

1. When personal vehicles are used, animals will be transported in the passenger cabin with temperature controls allowing heat in the winter and cooling in the summer.
2. Individuals with known animal allergies should not transport or travel in vehicles containing the specific specie to which they are allergic.
3. To prevent accidental exposure of animals to pathogenic agents in the environment, animals will be placed in a Sherpa™ bag (rabbits) or directly into the opaque plastic container (guinea pigs). The animals will then be placed in an opaque container with a solid lid that has been modified to allow for adequate ventilation during transportation to another location.
4. Transportation containers should remain closed during transport to reduce allergen dispersal.
5. Transportation containers must be disinfected between uses.
6. When moving animals between floors, use the freight elevator or stairs. This is to reduce exposure of non-lab personnel.

Intra-building and Inter-building Transportation of Aquatics

1. When personal vehicles are used, animals will be transported in the passenger cabin.
2. To prevent escape and exposure of native animals to alien species, animals removed from the building will be placed in plastic transportation containers with a seal. The primary enclosure will then be placed in an opaque container with a solid lid.
3. Animals removed from the animal facility but not taken outside the building will be placed in opaque containers for transportation.
3. Transportation containers must remain closed during transport. **Do not** open the container until you have reached your destination.
4. Transportation containers must be disinfected between uses.
5. When moving animals between floors, use the freight elevator or stairs. This is to reduce exposure of non-lab personnel.