**Facility Description:**
The Small Animal Core Research Facility exists to provide suitable space, support, and training for cancer research involving small animals campus-wide. Facility personnel will assist with project planning, protocol development, laboratory staff training, and project execution.

Facility space and operating procedures will accommodate projects requiring ABSL-1 and ABSL-2 containment, and models needing the use of immunocompromised rodents.

We are capable of supporting both subcutaneous and orthotopic tumor models, and are in the process of developing standard operating procedures for patient derived xenografts (PDX).

**Equipment Available:**
- Allentown NexGen Individually Ventilated Cage (IVC) Rack
  - Holds 140 mouse cages
  - Provides HEPA filtered supply/exhaust
  - Ideal for immunocompromised models
- Steris Basil 4700 Cage and Rack Washer
- VisualSonics Vevo 3100 Ultrasound
  - Ideal for 2D and 3D Oncology Imaging
  - Non-invasive so multiple imaging time points are possible
  - Companion Vevo LAB analysis software
- Amsco Century SV-1262 Steam Sterilizer
- Two Class II, A2 Biosafety Cabinets

**Stocked Husbandry Items:**
- Irradiated 1/8 Corn Cob Bedding (supplier The Andersons)
- Teklad Global Irradiated 18% Rodent Diet
- Bed r’ Nest irradiated enrichment item
- Autoclaved water

**Special Topic: Enrichment**
We’ve recently been testing several different kinds of enrichment for rodents in the Facility. Enrichment items should be purchased from reputable vendors, should encourage species-specific behavior, promote well-being, and still allow fulfillment of your experimental goals. Be sure to work with the IACUC if enrichment selection is a concern. We have found that the enrichment needs of animals vary depending on species, strain, age, and housing conditions. It is important to have several different kinds of enrichment items available to meet various needs, including the ability to make your enrichment sterile if necessary.

Contact us to learn more about using the Animal Facility!
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