

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SOP#: 427.2

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TITLE: Food and Fluid Regulation in Mice and Rats
SCOPE: All Program Personnel
RESPONSIBILITY: Principal Investigators
PURPOSE: To Outline the Proper Procedures to be Followed for Food and Fluid Regulation in Mice and Rats.

I. PURPOSE

1. This SOP outlines the proper procedures to be followed for food and fluid regulation in mice and rats.
2. Food and/or fluid regulation may be used in studies (a) to motivate animals to perform novel or learned tasks, (b) of the behaviors and mediators of hunger and thirst, and (c) of the homeostatic regulation of energy metabolism and its influence on disease pathogenesis.
3. This SOP will outline important issues to be considered and addressed in IACUC protocols that require food or fluid regulation.

II. RESPONSIBILITY

1. It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator to ensure the research staff are properly trained, and follow both the IACUC protocol and this SOP.

III. BACKGROUND & SCOPE

1. The objective when food and fluid regulation studies are planned and executed should be to **use the least regulation necessary to achieve the scientific objectives while maintaining animal well-being.**

Body Condition Scoring (BCS) Chart