ANIMAL HUSBANDRY PROCEDURES

MEDICINE/CHEMICALS IN ANIMAL DRINKING WATER OR CHOW

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:
CHANGING ANIMAL DRINKING WATER OR CHOW &
HANDLING ANIMAL CAGES IN CASE OF SPILL OR FLOODS

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1	Chemical hazards and Process	Hazardous chemicals or medicines/drugs need special handling, as required by federal and Washington state laws. These chemicals in water or chow can be an exposure risk when administering to animals.		
		 Review the EH&S Chemical Approvals spreadsheet on SharePoint. Any chemical needing an Appendix A will be confirmed by EH&S on the spreadsheet. Appendix A is only for agents with concentrations in water or chow that requires additional PPE, handling, and disposal. Ask your supervisor for questions. Note all chemicals in SSR Form and on cages with the Medicine/Chemical cage cards. 		
2	Personal protective equipment (PPE)	 Wear all PPE below when handling treated drinking water bottles or feed containers, changing treated water or chow, and cleaning treated water or chow spills: Standard animal facility personal protective equipment Nitrile gloves Always perform any work under laminar air flow, including administering water and food. 		
3	Handling & storage	 Researcher/Veterinary Services will: a. Submit a Special Service Request Form to DCM Facility Supervisory Staff before adding an agent to drinking water or chow. b. Provide an Appendix A when applicable (hazardous chem in water or chow) c. Place Medicine/Chemical cage card on cage d. Attach sticker with chem/antibiotic name to water bottle. e. Reseacher will provide extra treated water or chow to be available in the housing room in case research/vet staff cannot be reached and food and water is low: treated water or chow will be kept in labeled containers in the animal room. At cage change or end of study, DCM Animal Husbandry staff will: 		

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		 Hold unused chemical or antibiotics in water or chow, for the lab to dispose of: 1. when these are listed as hazardous chemical(s) and have an Appendix A, OR 2. if these are antibiotics in water.
4	Spill/Accident	 Flooded cage: Move animals to dry cage, turn in sick animal report. Spilled water (inside or outside of cage): Wipe up water with paper towels or other absorbent material and clean spill area with Clidox. Spilled chow: No special care is needed; thoroughly wipe up treated feed and dispose in regular trash. For any of the scenarios above, if there is an Appendix A for the agent, contact research or veterinary staff as applicable to dispose of materials.
5	Waste disposal	 Lab/Veterinary staff are responsible for disposal of unused/extra hazardous chemical per Appendix A with treated water or chow, and for all antibiotic treated water. No special disposal procedures are needed with the bedding unless there is an Appendix A. EH&S will pick up chemical waste solution carboys from the facility. For questions, contact EH&S: 206.616.5835 or chmwaste@uw.edu
6	Exposure emergency: See POSTER, Steps in next column.	 Eye, nose, mouth exposure to treated water: Flush mucous membranes immediately at nearest eyewash station for 15 minutes. Notify your supervisor. Seek care. Contact the UW Employee Health Center at 206.685.1026, extension 0. After hours, go to the closest emergency room (UWMC or Harborview). Report Incident on UW Online Accident Reporting System (OARS online website). Contact EH&S Research & Occupational Safety: 206.221.7770