



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE #102 RABBIT ANALGESIA

1. PURPOSE

The intent of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to describe methods of assessing pain in rabbits and mitigating pain by administration of analgesic medications.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Principal investigator (PI) and their research staff, veterinary care staff.

3. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. A procedure which would be expected to be painful if it were done on humans must be considered painful to the animal.
- 3.2. When there is a question of whether or not a procedure is painful, the animal should receive the benefit of analgesia.
- 3.3. Analgesia should be provided at an appropriate dose and frequency to control pain.
- 3.4. Any deviation from this procedure must be justified by the investigator and approved by the appropriate Facility Animal Care Committee (FACC).

4. PAIN RECOGNITION AND ASSESSMENT

- 4.1. Adapt the frequenc3.1a 0.001 Tw ef1.001 0 T.8 99for01 0 T1157 Tobseonnc3.1a 001 0 T 0.277 0 J(th)-11.3 e

8. REFERENCES

- 8.1. DiVincenti L Jr, Meirelles LA, Westcott RA. (2016). Safety and clinical effectiveness of a compounded sustained-release formulation of buprenorphine for postoperative analgesia in New Zealand White rabbits. *J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2016 Apr 1;248(7):795-801.
- 8.2. Keating SCJ, Thomas AA, Flecknell PA, Leach MC (2012) Evaluation of EMLA Cream for Preventing Pain during Tattooing of Rabbits: Changes in Physiological, Behavioural and Facial Expression Responses. *PLoS ONE*7(9): e44437. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0044437>
- 8.3. Plumb, DC. (2005). *Plumb's veterinary drug handbook*. Stockholm, Wis. : Ames, Iowa :PhrmaVet ; Distributed by Blackwell Pub.
- 8.4. Delk KW, Carpenter JW, KuKanich B, Nietfeld JC, Kohles M. Pharmacokinetics of meloxicam administered orally to rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) for 29 days. *Am J Vet Res.* 2014 Feb;75(2):195-9. [doi: 10.2460/ajvr.75.2.195](https://doi.org/10.2460/ajvr.75.2.195). PMID: 24471756.

SOP REVISION HISTORY

DATE	NEW VERSION
2015.04.22	6.1 Use lidocaine HCl 2% (20mg/ml) injectable solution.
2015.04.22	6.1 Use bupivacaine HCl 0.50% (5mg/ml) injectable solution.
2015.04.22	6.1 Lidocaine-bupivacaine mixture: Discard mixture after 3 months.
2016.09.02	7. Carprofen, ketoprofen and meloxicam: Ensure good water intake and monitor hydration status. Suspend water restriction prior to administration.
2016.09.06	7. Buprenorphine route of administration:-SC-Preferred: IM, IV, sublingual, gingival Other: SC
2017.01.27	7.1. Administration of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs): 7.1.1. NSAIDs include carprofen, ketoprofen and meloxicam. 7.1.2.