A. PURPOSE: It is sometimes essential to transport animals within or between campus buildings in order to facilitate viable research. To provide for the integrity and well being of the animals being transported into the imaging facility, a system has been devised that will facilitate the research while minimizing the risk of spreading a contaminant. It is critical that research personnel follow the procedures described in the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals regarding the transportation of animals in order to reduce any undue stress and risk of Zoonosis to and from the animals. The following Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) outlines the steps required to maintain a sanitary magnetic resonance imaging environment for the research animals.

B. PROCEDURES: Please follow all procedures in place regarding the proper sanitation of carts and wheels and the proper transport of animals. You can visit [http://www.ulam.umich.edu/sops/AnimalTransport.pdf](http://www.ulam.umich.edu/sops/AnimalTransport.pdf) if you have any questions on these procedures. Should it become necessary to image animals harboring chemical hazards please contact Amanda Fair at awelton@umich.edu for further information. Please refer to SOP “Procedure for Imaging Rodents with ABSL-2 Pathogens” for information regarding the use of ABSL-2-infected animals. The following guidelines have been devised to ensure the likelihood of a zoonotic pathogen being transferred between animals is minimized.

NOTE: ONCE ANIMALS HAVE BEEN IMAGED IN THE CMI FACILITY THEY CANNOT RETURN TO ANY ULAM GENERAL HOUSING ROOM. THEY MUST EITHER BE HOUSED IN THE CMI ANIMAL ROOM (D265) FOR THE DURATION OF THE EXPERIMENT OR THEY MUST BE EUTHANIZED.

Only in very rare cases will exceptions to this be allowed, following ULAM veterinarian approval. Please contact Amanda Fair at awelton@umich.edu for further information.
1. When animals come to the CMI facility for the first time they must be placed into clean caging prior to coming to BSRB CMI.

2. All personnel entering the imaging area are required to don a disposable gown, hair bonnet and gloves before entering the MR imaging room. The PPE will be located in front of the double doors as you enter the imaging facility.

3. Transport carts can be brought into the facility but they cannot enter animal rooms or imaging rooms. The animals in the clean boxes should be brought into the MR imaging room and placed on the table within D260.

4. If imaging animals already housed within the CMI animal housing rooms please use the provided cart for transport. This cart is kept in the hallway to assist in the transfer of cages from the animal rooms to the imaging rooms. Please note that the transfer cart cannot enter either type of room.

5. Users must remove all magnetic items and electronic devices before entering the magnet room. Please refer to posted signs for proper safety procedures.

6. Prior to imaging, users are responsible for wiping down all induction boxes and preparation benches with the provided Virex solution to minimize contamination risk to your animals. The MR coil should then be lined with a new piece of paper towel (which we will provide).

7. Please maintain MI technique as much as possible. Spray gloves and clean equipment with provided Virex solution in between animal cages to reduce the possibility of cross contamination.

8. After imaging is completed, the paper towel should be disposed of and all areas that have come into contact with animals should be sprayed generously with Virex and allowed to sit for 10 minutes before wiping the areas clean. Please make sure that no animal wastes are present in the boxes.
9. If animals are returning to the CMI animal housing rooms (D265 or D272) then users must don a face mask to enter the animal rooms, in addition to the disposable gown, hair bonnet and gloves.

10. Discard of all PPE prior to leaving the imaging area.

11. If animals are to be euthanized following imaging then users must do so at the ULAM euthanasia station located on the dirty side of the cage wash area. Users must discard their imaging PPE and don new PPE once in the dirty side cage wash area. **NOTE: ANIMALS THAT ARE ABSL-2 CANNOT BE EUTHANIZED AT THIS STATION, THEY MUST BE EUTHANIZED WITHIN THE ANTEROOM OF THE CONTAINMENT AREA (ROOM D270).** Please refer to the SOP “Procedure for Imaging Rodents with ABSL-2 Pathogens” for further information.

12. Discard of all PPE prior to leaving the euthanasia station.

13. Bagged carcasses should be put in the carcass cooler (room D050).

**NOTE:** Please contact ULAM if you have any questions regarding the transportation of animals or if you would like to set up an animal transfer from one area of campus to another.