

SOP: **TE-02**

Title: **Skin Scraping**

SOP Last Revision Date:
08JUL09

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to describe the method for performing a skin scraping for detection of external parasites (ectoparasites). This SOP applies to animals housed at the Laboratory Animal Research Core's animal facilities on the campus of the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

POLICY

It is LARC policy to meet or exceed all federal, state, local regulations and institutional policies/procedures as they apply to the use of animals in research. Personnel must attend any applicable training in animal care and use, occupational health and safety, equipment operation, and Standard Operating Procedures prior to performing activities outlined in this SOP or work under the direct supervision of a trained LARC staff member.

REFERENCES

- A. Laboratory Animal Research Core Personnel
- B. *The Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals "The Guide"*
- C. Office Of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)
- D. Animal Welfare Act and Animal Welfare Regulations (AWA & AWR's)

PROCEDURES

A. Skin Scraping

- a. A frosted microscope slide is labeled as needed to identify sample.
- b. Place a drop of mineral oil on the center of the labeled microscope slide.
- c. Place a drop of mineral oil on the skin in the area of the test animal.
- d. Using a scalpel blade, scrape multiple times towards the head of the animal being tested in the areas where the mineral oil is placed. Scraping must be sufficient to obtain both hair and skin debris.
- e. Rub scalpel in the drop of oil on the microscope slide, to allow the hair and skin debris on the scalpel to transfer to the slide.
- f. A coverslip is added and the prepared slide is examined microscopically to evaluate for evidence of external parasites. Results of the parasitological testing are then reported to the LARC Veterinarian.

B. Record Retention

- a. All testing results are to be maintained by the LARC