

Mice Training – protocol

Week zero

1. Day 1 (recommended on a Tuesday) – inject chips, put mice in their new cage in phase 1
2. Open a weight table in : \data_folder\weight_tracking\cage_name.csv
 - a. First line in the file considered the baseline weight
3. Day 2 – Move to phase 2, unlimited amount, unlimited hours.
4. Day 3 – Same as day 2
5. Day 4 – Start water restriction – limited amount and limited hours.

First week

1. Day 1 – Handling in the training room – with air noise (4-2)
2. Day 2 – Handling and head pulling in the training room – with air noise (4-2)
 - a. May skip day 2 if mice are calm and allow you to work with them.
3. Day 3 – **Starting Stage A**: Put mice in head fixation, for a total of 12 minutes. With white screen, no rewards.
4. Day 4 – **Starting Stage B**: running for 18 minutes (4-2) with white screen, rewards when running above a determined speed threshold – with delay of 3s between rewards.

Second week

1. **Stage C**: running with 1 environment for 8 minutes and then 2 minutes stop
 - a. Start with 30 minutes in the first day and increase till to ~ 40 minutes until end of the week

Third week

1. **Day 1: stage C**
2. **Day 2: Stage D**: running with 1 environment for 4 minutes and then 2 minutes stop. ~ 40 minutes
3. **Day 3-4: Stage E**: running with 1 environment for 2 minutes and then 2 minutes stop. ~ 40 minutes
4. **Day 5: Stage F**:
 - a. running with 1 environment for 2 minutes and then 2 minutes stop. ~ 20 minutes
 - b. During air off, change to 2nd environment.
 - c. running with 2nd environment for 2 minutes and then 2 minutes stop. ~ 20 minutes

Fourth week

1. Start imaging