

51F0006

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Protocol 3

1. A total of 18 column "E" guinea pigs were utilized in this study.
2. Painful procedure: Guinea pigs will receive a convulsive dose of the nerve agent soman, which is thought to cause some pain and/or distress due to the intense physical activity caused by the seizure.
3. Justification: The use of anesthetics and/or analgesics would result in misleading information regarding the role of mast cell mediated anaphylactoid reactions/mast cell degranulation in acute organophosphorous poisoning. Anesthetics/analgesics also have profound effects on brain function that can interact with the toxicity of the nerve agent and thus complicate interpretation of the results.
4. No federal regulations mandate this procedure.

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Protocol 4

1. A total of 337 column "E" guinea pigs were utilized in this study.
2. Painful procedure: Guinea pigs receive a potentially convulsive dose of the nerve agents to be evaluated, and death from nerve agent intoxication is the primary endpoint of this protocol.
3. Justification: Death from nerve agent exposure is aesthetically unpleasant and probably painful to the animals due to the intense physical activity caused by the seizures. However, quantitative evaluation of nerve toxicity and the efficacy of therapeutic countermeasures requires exposure to anesthetics or analgesics to relieve pain would lead to an erroneous evaluation of the toxicity of these agents and the efficacy of pretreatment, treatment, and decontamination procedures.
4. No federal regulations mandate this procedure.

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