Tail-flick test

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Abstract

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Protocol

Step 1.

Mice are allowed to habituate for 30 min to the testing environment and the injection occur immediately the start of the test.

Step 2.

Each mouse is lightly restrained in a denim pocket while the distal half of it's tail is exposed into a thermostatically controlled temperature

Step 3.

Latency to respond to the heat stimulus by vigorous flexion of the tail is measured with a stopwatch.

Step 4.

Each mouse is given 3-5 trials with an inter-trial interval of 10 s, and a maximum trial duration of 8 s.

Step 5.

To prevent tissue injury each mouse's tail is promptly removed from the hot water after 30 s.

Step 6.

Latency performance of the last 3 trials are recorded.