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U Mass - Hind Limb Ischemia V.2 [↗](#)

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1 *Works for me* dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.56jg9cn

Mouse Metabolic Phenotyping Centers
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ABSTRACT

Summary:

This is a mouse model of hind limb ischemia, a technique involving an interruption in the arterial blood supply to tissue in the hind limb. This model is used to study peripheral artery disease and vascular remodeling.

EXTERNAL LINK

<https://mmpc.org/shared/document.aspx?id=324&docType=Protocol>

MATERIALS

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
Ketamine	07-803-6637	Patterson Veterinary
Xylazine	07-869-6707	Patterson Veterinary
Isoflurane 1-3%	07-893-1389	Patterson Veterinary
Buprenorphine	07-891-9756	Patterson Veterinary
Meloxicam	07-893-1368	Patterson Veterinary
6-0 Prolene suture	07-824-3204	Patterson Veterinary
7-0 Silk suture	07-824-1501	Patterson Veterinary

1 Expected procedure duration:

30 minutes

2 Adequacy or depth of anesthesia is monitored by:

Respiratory Rate and Toe Pinch

3 Frequency of anesthesia depth assessment:

At the start of surgical procedure, a toe or ear pinch can be used to assess the depth of anesthesia. Visual monitoring should be performed throughout the procedures, as well as toe/ear pinches.

Deviations from expected behavior Should be noted.

4 Anesthesia Regimen:

Ketamine (80-100mg/kg), Xylazine (5-20mg/kg) or Isoflurane 1-3%

5 Pre-surgical Analgesics:

Approximately 30 minutes prior to undergoing the surgical procedure, mice receive an S.C. injection of Buprenorphine (0.05mg/kg) and Meloxicam (5mg/kg).

6 Surgical prep:

Aseptic technique will be maintained by:
Clipping/shaving fur around incision site, Sterile Instruments.

Isoflurane, heating pad, forceps, scissors, needle driver, eye ointment, 6-0 Prolene, 7-0 silk suture, 1 ml-syringes, 0.9% NaCl, Sterile gloves, Povidone-iodine, 70% ETOH

7 Surgical Procedure:

- (1). Anesthetize the mice and ensure depth of anesthesia with a toe pinch.
- (2). Place the mice supine on the heating pad.
- (3). Remove the hair from 0.5 cm above the elbow to 0.5 cm below the knee joint of surfaces to be joined.
- (4). Prep the surgical field with 70% isopropanol as well as Betadine solution and drape the mice.
- (5). Apply ointment to animal's eyes.
- (6). Confirm depth of anesthesia with a toe pinch.
- (7). Make an incision in the skin from the medial thigh towards the knee.
- (8). Blunt dissect away subcutaneous fat tissue to reveal the underlying femoral artery.
- (9). Pierce the membranous femoral sheath to expose the neurovascular bundle. Dissect and separate the femoral artery from the femoral vein and nerve from the inguinal ligament to the epigastrica.
- (10). Place 2 7-0 silk sutures around femoral artery 2mm apart and ligate. Divide the femoral artery between the 2 ligating sutures.
- (11). Close the skin incision using 6-0 Prolene suture.
- (11). Injection 0.5 ml of 0.9% NaCl subcutaneously to each mouse to prevent dehydration.

8 **Surgical Procedure (alternate):** Severe ischemic model

- (1). Anesthetize the mice and ensure depth of anesthesia with a toe pinch.
- (2). Place the mice supine on the heating pad.
- (3). Remove the hair from 0.5 cm above the elbow to 0.5 cm below the knee joint of surfaces to be joined.
- (4). Prep the surgical field with 70% isopropanol as well as Betadine solution and drape the mice.
- (5). Apply ointment to animal's eyes.
- (6). Confirm depth of anesthesia with a toe pinch.
- (7). Make an incision in the skin from the medial thigh towards the knee.
- (8). Blunt dissect away subcutaneous fat tissue to reveal the underlying femoral artery.
- (9). Pierce the membranous femoral sheath to expose the neurovascular bundle. Dissect and separate the femoral artery, femoral vein and nerve from the inguinal ligament to the sapheno-popliteal bifurcation.
- (10). Ligate the femoral artery using 7-0 silk sutures between the superficial epigastric artery and the sapheno-popliteal bifurcation.
- (11). Close the skin incision using 6-0 Prolene suture.
- (11). Injection 0.5 ml of 0.9% NaCl subcutaneously to each mouse to prevent dehydration.

9 **Post-procedure Analgesics:**

Buprenorphine (0.05mg/kg) every 12 hours, for 72 hours post-op.
Meloxicam (5mg/kg) every 24 hours, for 72 hours post-op

10 **Post-procedure Monitoring:**

Mice are monitored 2x daily for the first 5 days post the surgery. Thereafter, mice are monitored at least 3x per week.



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