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Rotarod test

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ABSTRACT

Protocol to assess motor coordination and balance by using an accelerating rod

MATERIALS

Rotarod apparatus custom for rats

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1 Habituate the animal for 1 h to the testing room before the test

2 Place the rat on the elevated rod (47 cm from the floor) rotating at low speed (4 rpm) for at least 30 seconds before the first session of the test

3 Place the animal on an accelerating rod from 4 to 40 rpm in 300 s

4 Repeat step 3 for 3 times with at least 5 min of rest between trials

4.1 Record the time the rat fall from the rod (maximum 300 seconds)

5 Clean the apparatus every time between animals and trials

6 Repeat steps 4-5 for 4 times in two consecutive days (with an inter-session interval of 3.5 h)