



**Division of Research
Comparative Medicine**

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SOP #	105	Title: Carcass Disposal
<p>SCOPE: This SOP is applicable to all Comparative Medicine personnel involved in carcass disposal procedures.</p> <p>SOP OWNER: Facility Manager (FM)</p> <p>PURPOSE: To outline the procedures for carcass disposal in the vivaria at FAU.</p> <p>LOCATION: All Vivaria</p> <p>Approved by: Sylvia Gografe, D.V.M., Ph.D. Director Comparative Medicine</p>		

1. References

- a. *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, page 45, 73 and 77
- b. EH&S Biological Waste Program

2. Responsibilities

- a. Lab Animal Technician
 - i. Prepare for disposal of FAU EH&S animal pick-up by making sure all animals are easily accessible in designated refrigerators.
 - ii. Clean fluid leakage from carcass disposal areas and disinfect areas of fluid leakage.
 - iii. Contact EH&S for animal pick-up as needed.
- b. Facility Manager (FM)
 - i. Ensure compliance to procedures as outlined in this SOP.
 - ii. Ensure appropriate training is provided to personnel.
 - iii. Inform IACU of live animals found in carcass disposal.
- c. Training Coordinator
 - i. Schedule investigation of animal welfare issue with appropriate persons.
 - ii. Schedule training at frequency to maintain competency to SOP.
 - iii. Ensure appropriate training is provided to personnel.
- d. Director/Veterinarian

- i. Ensure appropriate training is provided to personnel and necessary disposal resources are available via EH&S or biohazard disposal vendor.
3. Materials
 - a. Carcass disposal bag(s)
 - b. Carcass Labels
 - c. Freezer and/or refrigerator
4. Safety
 - a. Use of universal precautions is necessary when handling carcass disposal bags.
 - b. Fluid leakage from carcass bags must be cleaned and then the surface must be sanitized.
5. Procedure
 - a. Verify death. If the animal was euthanized, this needs to be ensured via a secondary method (see IACUC Policy 10.4.11: Euthanasia Methods).
 - b. Wearing gloves, place the carcass in a carcass bag
 - c. Fill out carcass sticker information (profile numbers are posted by each euthanasia station) roll the top of the bag down, and adhere carcass sticker in a way that seals the bag.
 - d. Animal carcasses are stored in appropriate carcass storage areas (vivarium 35A&B: building 35A/room 105, vivarium 71: dirty hallway, vivarium MC17&MC19: MC17 hallway).
 - e. If animal is found dead, observe for any physical abnormalities such as fight wounds or misaligned teeth. Place the carcass in a refrigerator (not a freezer) for 24 hours and notify lab personnel via email so they have a chance to collect tissues if needed.
 - f. Contact the FM or ehs@fau.edu to request a carcass pickup once the freezer starts getting full.
 - g. The FM is copied on written communications regarding carcass pick-ups.
 - h. Any animals found alive or outside of carcass disposal bags must be reported to the FM who will initiate the proper follow-up steps including informing the Attending Veterinarian.
6. Record Keeping
 - a. If animals are found alive in carcass disposal refrigerators, the Facility Manager will find the open bag in the freezer to pinpoint the identity of the mouse via the carcass label.
 - b. All refrigerators are to be labeled with proper signage / laboratory labels
 - i. No Food or Drink Storage – For laboratory use only
 - ii. Biohazardous Waste

Review Date	Revision Date	Revision Number	Description of Revision