Carbon Dioxide Euthanasia Instructions

FLOW RATE

Please calculate the flow rate required for approximately 20% displacement (Use the internal chamber dimensions (LxWxH) and convert to Liters), delete the instructions in this box and enter the flow rate for your chamber here:

Measuring using inches:

61.02 in³ = 1 liter
eg. 10 x 8 x 5 inches = 400 in³/61.02 = 6.55 L x 20% = 1.31 L/min

Measuring using Cm:

1000 cm³ = 1 liter
eg. 30 x 20 x 10 cm = 6000 cm³ / 1000 = 6 L x 20% = 1.2 L

A standard mouse box from the vivarium = 1.1 L/min

Important Reminders

- Do not exceed cage density regulations (see Rodent Overcrowding Policy).
- Do not mix animals from different cages or different species.
- Do not leave animals unattended.
- Young (< 10 days) or sick animals may require additional CO₂ exposure time due to resistance to hypoxia.
- Keep CO₂ on for at least 1 minute after the animals stop breathing. Then perform a required secondary method of euthanasia below:
  - Cervical Dislocation (only for rodents < 200 g)
  - Decapitation
  - Bilateral Thoracotomy
  - Exsanguination
- If using the same chamber for serial euthanasias, the chamber should be cleaned and left open for 2 minutes to allow previous CO₂ to dissipate so the chamber is not pre-charged.
- Any animal not properly euthanized must be reported to the IACUC.

Please contact vivarium staff for training on any of the above procedures

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