



Northeast Biodefense Center Animal Core

Dear NBC members,

We would like to inform you of the NBC Animal Core available for research with animal models of category A-C priority agents. The core consists of two BSL-3 animal facilities for small animals at PHRI, Newark, NJ and Wadsworth Center, Albany, NY. Facilities for large animals and non-human primates may be available in the future. The Animal Core's research staff provides expertise in bacterial and viral animal models. At PHRI, the expertise is in models of bacterial pathogens, including aerosol challenge, and at the Wadsworth Center, the expertise is in models of viral pathogens.

- The PHRI BSL-3 vivarium is a newly-constructed 5000 sq. ft state-of-the-art facility dedicated for pathogen-based studies of small animal (rodent) models. A major objective of this core component is to run infection models for tularemia, anthrax, plague and glanders, which will support research objectives of the RCE including studies of pathogenicity, host response, novel therapeutics and improved diagnostics. An on-going priority will be the development of aerosol infection models for select pathogens. Technicians are available to help support users, and an RCE coordinator, Dr. Bernadette Alisantosa, is available to assist in protocol development and to expedite regulatory approvals from the IACUC and ISBC. All RCE users are charged fees at a reduced rate for per diem housing costs and specialty procedures.
- The Wadsworth Center's BSL3 vivarium functions as a collaborative research center to study viral pathogens in rodents and birds. The facility has an animal care technician and a research technician available to assist researchers in projects that are overseen by a Wadsworth Center investigator. The Wadsworth Center investigator also applies for IACUC approval. The investigators are charged standard per diem costs at the Wadsworth Center rates.

NBC members interested in using the animal core may contact:

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We look forward to hearing from you.

David Perlin and Kristen Bernard