

## Bioexclusions Definitions – Rodents

### Purpose

The purpose of this Standard Operating procedure (SOP) is to harmonise practices to facilitate movement of animals between animal holding facilities at Charles Sturt University facilities to accommodate the needs of collaborative research while protecting resident colonies from infectious contamination.

The critical components covered are:

- Bioexclusion practices
- Animal Acquisition, receiving and acclimation (SOP041)
- Quarantine procedures (SOP042)
- Health Monitoring (SOP044)

### Responsibility

Facility veterinarian, facility manager, facility supervisors, animal care staff, veterinary care staff, Animal Care and Ethics Committee members.

### Procedures

Bioexclusion is based on husbandry practices and animals are classified according to the following scales:

#### Level 1

- Conventional housing
- Open cages without filter tops
- Feed, water and bedding not sterilised

#### Level 2

- Microisolation/ isolation (individually ventilated cages or isolator cages)
- Use of change stations
- Use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Feed, water and bedding not sterilised

#### Level 3

- Microisolation/ isolation (individually ventilated cages or isolator cages)
- Use of change stations
- Use of personal protective equipment (PPE), shower in shower out
- Sterile Feed, water, cages and bedding

#### Level 4

Same as level 3 plus:

- Animals coming only from approved vendors
- Very limited access
- Designated staff

Excluded pathogens are determined by the facility veterinarian and facility manager who establishes a list of pathogens monitored and excluded for each facility room.