University of Cincinnati
Animal Care and Use Program

Cage Identification

The Guide states that “identification cards should include the source of the animal, the strain or stock, names and locations of the responsible investigator(s), pertinent dates (e.g. arrival date, birth date,) and protocol number when applicable.”

Please note: This policy excludes ectotherms and birds in satellite housing locations and the UC Blue Ash Veterinary Technology Program. Identification information for these species/locations are at the discretion of the PI, but should at a minimum contain information regarding PI, protocol number, and species.

Identification Cards

It is the Principal Investigator’s responsibility to ensure that each cage/enclosure can be clearly identified. All cages/enclosures/apparati with animals left should be identifiable by the below information. This includes metabolic cages and behavioral apparatus.

1. Required identification card information (as per the Guide):
   a. Principal Investigator Name
   b. IACUC Protocol Number
   c. Species (also strain or stock for rodents)
   d. Account number for billing purposes

2. Recommended identification card information:
   a. Sex
   b. Source of the animal (i.e. vendor name, in-house bred.)
   c. Date of Birth or Arrival

3. Temporary identification information (e.g. short-term < 72 hours temporary caging, behavioral apparati):
   a. Principal Investigator Name
   b. IACUC Protocol Number

4. In non-LAMS animal use locations where individual identification cards are not available (satellite housing locations, UCBA), the information may be provided for the entire room or entire rack as outlined below:
   a. If all cages in an animal use room are under one protocol, then each cage does not require a cage card unless the animals’ information differs.
   b. If all cages on a rack (on one or both sides) are under one protocol, then each cage does not require a cage card unless the animals’ information differs. The Principal Investigator is responsible for the cages placed on the rack.

Supplemental Cage Cards

These cards are used to convey additional information, document health status and/or experimental condition; and may require action or follow up. Contact LAMS (lams-veterinary@ucmail.uc.edu or lams-husbandry@ucmail.uc.edu) for additional details.

Examples:
   a. LAMS Veterinary assessment treatment or monitoring tags (e.g. health notice).
   b. LAMS Husbandry and husbandry exceptions tags/notices (e.g. food/fluid regulation).
   c. ACUP protocol/policy/guideline information (e.g. temporary protocol transfer).