

# Micro-Isolator Technique



**Research**  
*Division of Laboratory  
Animal Resources*

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Initial Preparation

Turn on workstation hood fan and light  
Allow to run for several minutes (about 4-5 at least)



**Do Not  
Disable  
The  
Alarm**

# Micro-Isolator Technique

Make sure that the sash is at the correct working height



**Sash is  
Set Too  
High**



# Micro-Isolator Technique

Make sure that the sash is at the correct working height



**Correct  
Height**



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Laminar Airflow WorkStation



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Protective Clothing



Laboratory Coat

Disposable Gown

Sleeves

Gloves

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Protective Clothing

Make sure that your gloves overlap the sleeves

Take care not to expose any skin



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Disinfectants

### MB-10

- Chlorine dioxide High level disinfectant
- Tuberculocidal
- Bactericidal
- Virucidal (MHV, Sendai, PVM, LCMV, etc.)
- Fungicidal



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Disinfectants

Alternate disinfectants such as Clidox<sup>®</sup> (not currently used in DLAR)

High level disinfectant

- Tuberculocidal
- Bactericidal
- Virucidal (MHV, Sendai, PVM, LCMV, etc.)
- Fungicidal

Contact time is important

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Disinfection/Cleaning



- ❑ Spray the work surface of the hood with disinfectant



- ❑ Wipe any debris from the work surface

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Disinfection/Cleaning

- ❑ Spray and wipe down the internal sides of the hood
- ❑ **DO NOT** spray the HEPA filter area of hood



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Disinfection/Cleaning



- ❑ Fill forceps tray with disinfectant from the spray bottle
- ❑ Spray sleeves, gloves, and forceps tray
- ❑ Rub hands together to distribute disinfectant

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Disinfection/Cleaning

- ❑ The floor of the hood should be sprayed periodically to prevent contamination between filter tops
- ❑ Dip fingers and forceps (if used) in MB10 solution between different boxes of mice



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Disinfection/Cleaning

**It is important, especially when handling mice and equipment that may present a possible contamination that hands, work surfaces, caging, cage card holders, and instruments used for handling the mice, be kept continually wet with disinfectant, to help prevent the spread of possible contaminants such as fur mites**



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Preparing to Change Dirty Boxes



- ❑ Place all necessary items in the hood (i.e. clean boxes, water bottle baskets, food container)
- ❑ Spray the outsides and bottoms of all items in hood with disinfectant

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Preparing to Change Dirty Boxes

- ❑ Place the micro-isolator in the hood
- ❑ Spray the outside of the box with disinfectant *this includes the clean box if you are changing dirty boxes*
- ❑ **Avoid spraying the cage card**





# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Handling the Micro-Isolator Cage

Remove filter top by tilting it to the left or right



Place filter top on floor of hood right side up

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Handling the Micro-Isolator Cage



Acceptable alternative is to rest the lid against the back of the box or placed on its' side

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Handling the Micro-Isolator Cage

Touching the outside of the micro-Isolator cage contaminates your gloves

- ❑ Dip gloves in forceps tray filled with disinfectant until completely wet. This should be done after handling each cage.
- ❑ Rub hands together
- ❑ If using forceps, remember to submerge them in disinfectant when not in use



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Handling the Micro-Isolator Cage



- Turn water bottle upside down
- Turn wire bar lid sideways across the cage



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Handling the Micro-Isolator Cage

### Animal Manipulations

Perform procedures:

- ❑ Transfer Animals from dirty cage to clean cage
- ❑ Weaning/Separating
  - ❑ When weaning animals place several food pellets (8-10) on Cage Floor



# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Handling the Micro-Isolator Cage



Replace the wire  
bar lid



Turn water bottle so that  
sipper tube is pointed  
downward

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Handling the Micro-Isolator Cage



Replace  
Filter  
Top

# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Handling the Micro-Isolator & IVC Cages

All Micro-Isolator caging and IVC caging regardless of style or manufacturer should be worked with under Laminar flow workbenches or Bio-Safety cabinets.



This cage handling procedure also applies to all of the IVC Rat caging as well.





# Micro-Isolator Technique

## Clean Up



Clean work surface of hood with disinfectant and paper towels then wipe with clear water

Throw away used gloves and sleeves

# For Assistance, Please Call

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