

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES  
DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SOP#: 455.3

Date Issued: 10/20

Date Revised: 3/24

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TITLE: Naked Mole Rat (*Heterocephalus glaber* ) Husbandry  
SCOPE: Animal Care Personnel  
RESPONSIBILITY: Facility Manager, Technical Staff, Veterinary Staff  
PURPOSE: To Outline the Proper Procedures for Receiving, Physical Examination,  
Evaluating Health Status, Handling, Care and Husbandry Practices  
Related to Naked Mole Rats

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I. PURPOSE

inappropriate in this species.

2) levels, so CO<sub>2</sub> euthanasia is

6. NMRs are very docile and rarely bite when handled, but care must be taken to change gloves between handling individuals from different colonies.





- d. Remove a sample cup of dirty bedding (without fecal pellets) from the Toilet Chamber and distribute in any replaced or dumped cages in the system to maintain the scent of the colony.
- e. Toilet compartment change must be delayed by one week to help the NMR reestablish the colony scent. Replace the Toilet Chamber with a sanitized cage (cage-washer at 180°F or higher) the following week from all other cages.

### 3. Feeding

- a. The feeding schedule is laminated and posted in the room and inside of the room book.
- b. Clean vegetables and fruit thoroughly with hot water and inspect carefully before chopping into ~1/2" pieces. If there are any rotten or moldy parts, throw the entire piece away. Carefully check the sweet potatoes, as they are a major food source for the NMRs. Potatoes could contain mold in the pest hole, which is





