**Transportation of animals to the Advanced Photon Source**

**Introduction:**

Argonne National Laboratory does not have an animal facility or an IACUC. IIT's agreement with ANL allows researchers to bring in “daily supplies” of rats or mice from the IIT ERB rodent housing facility to the BioCAT wet lab at the APS where they can be kept for no more than 12 hours. A typical experiment at the APS lasts 3-5 days. There are typically 3 -5 different experiments involving different investigators per year.

Any animals used in these experiments are shipped either from our collaborating institution or from approved commercial vendors to the ERB animal holding facility using commercial shippers authorized for transporting animals.

Although the guide discourages use of private vehicles for transporting animals, in this situation there is no viable alternative to having BioCAT staff transport the animals to the APS in their private vehicles.

**Procedure:**

During an experiment, BioCAT staff will come to the ERB facility and transfer the required animals to plastic commercial disposable cages with fresh bedding material. They are provided with food but not with water during transit to prevent soaking the bedding. Once the animals get to the APS (24 miles from IIT campus) they are provided with water. During transport Diet Gels will be provided to keep animals hydrated in case of delays.

In order to demonstrate due diligence by the IACUC to ensure animal welfare during transport:

1) Any vehicles used for animal transport will be inspected by the IACUC as part of their routine semi-annual review.

2) Any vehicles will be equipped with a temperature monitoring device to ensure temperatures are kept within the acceptable range (65-75 deg. F) established by the *Guide*. Records of temperatures will be retained for inspection by the IACUC.

3) In case of vehicle breakdown or accident another BioCAT staff member with an authorized vehicle will be contacted to collect the animals to ensure timely arrival of the animals at their destination with minimal exposure to adverse temperatures or other conditions.