

LABORATORY ANIMAL SCIENCE

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The Animal Laboratory Division of IPEN (DALI) is the supplier in this Institute of approximately 3.000 animals annually, supplying to Radiopharmaceutic Center (main usuary) and others research centers. Use of a good quality (genetically and microbiologically) animals is essential for obtaining reliable and reproducible results in biomedical research and for the production and testing of vaccines and drugs as the radiopharmaceutical products After giving a new or better form in some areas we got a specific pathogen free (SPF) rodent breeding facility. DALI currently is breeding and maintaining 8 strains of mice (Swiss, Balb/C, Nude, Scid, Little Scid, C3H3, litle/little and C57Bl/6J) and 1 strain of rat (Wistar). Mice and rats are held in ventilated cabinets with water, food and bed sterilized by ionizing radiation. (FIG.1 and 2) Since 2000, many changes have been made to the DALI to increase efficiency and productivity as well as to cater for the demand of the researchers in the IPEN. With the continued improvement of facilities we are in a position to offer more services to researchers and are able to offer better assistance to ensure good quality experiments and consistent results (FIG.3). The use of animals as experimental subjects in the 20th century has contributed to many important advances in scientific and medical knowledge. Although scientists have also developed non animal models for research, teaching and testing, these models often cannot completely mimic the complex human or animal body, and continued progress in human and animal health and well-being requires the use of living animals. Nevertheless, efforts to develop and use scientifically valid alternatives, adjuncts, and refinements to animal research should continue.



FIGURE 2 - Ventiladed cabinets to keep specific pathogen free animals.



FIGURE 3 - Animals are feed and cleaned in aseptic conditions.



FIGURE 1 - Immunodeficient and SPF mice strains are kept in mini-isolators that provide a better micro-environment inside the cage, protection against pathogenic contaminants and promotes animal health reducing infant mortality and respiratory problems.