



Guinea Pig Health Check Training



Health Check:			
Perform health checks in the morning unless instructed otherwise by the Facility Supervisor or Veterinarians.			
Assess every cage for health abnormalities, use a flashlight when necessary. Use a step stool for mid and high-level cages. Lower cages can be visualized by either removing the cage from the rack or by kneeling on knees.			
Mark health concerns with a pink health check Post-it® and immediately report the health concern by sending a message to the “health-usda” slack group.			
Remove dead animals from the cage and place in a bag. Label the bag with room number, cage number, date, and PI name. Mark the cage card with a red dot labeled “FDIC”, the number of animals found dead, and the date. Place the carcass into the bin with the corresponding day of the week in the carcass storage area. Report the dead animal by sending a message to the “health-usda” slack group.			
Feed:			
Feed animals approved diet ad libitum.			
Feed must be at least half (½) full and free of mold/moisture.			
Fill the food hopper with food once it falls below half (½) of the food hopper			
Check and clear the base of the feeder if blocked with debris (Ex: excess cage bedding).			
Bedding/Cage:			
Assess each cage for flooding, heavy soiling, mold, and/or defective parts. Change cages found with heavy soiling, floods, mold, and/or defective parts.			
Water:			
Provide water ad libitum from an approved source (NAF cage wash bottle filler, NAF hydropac water hose, LKS hydropac water hose).			
Replace water that is less than half (½) full.			
Enrichment:			
Place enrichment into each cage according to the “Guinea Pig Enrichment” schedule posted in the housing room. Enrichment offerings include hay and other approved fresh vegetables and fruits.			
https://olac.berkeley.edu/SOP-%26-Guidelines WIN 103			
Name:	Cal Net ID:	Any questions?	
Trainer:	Date:	Verified By:	Date:
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