

## CASTRATION

ORDER CODE: CASTRATE

SPECIES: Rat, Mouse, Guinea Pig

DIET SUPPLEMENT: None required

The testes are the major source of testosterone and the sole source of sperm. Animals whose testicles have been removed are often used for studies involving the role of testosterone on various metabolic processes. Although, other applications of castrated animals include the study of prostate cancer and osteoporosis, behavioral studies, as well as the prevention of breeding.

### **Surgical Procedure**

The animal is prepared for surgery using pre-operative and anesthetic procedures as described in our *Surgical Capabilities Reference Paper*, Vol. 13, No.1, 2005. An incision is made in the scrotum. Then, an incision is made in the tunica of the first testicle. The testis, vas deferens, and attached testicular fat pad are pulled out of the incision. The blood vessels supplying the testis are cauterized. The testis, vas deferens and fatty tissue are severed just below the site of the cauterization. The tunica on the contralateral side is similarly penetrated, and the procedure repeated. The scrotum incision is closed using wound clips.

### **IACUC**

Charles River's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) governs the entire surgical process, including any post-operative holding in CRL facilities prior to shipment. The receiving institution's Animal Care and Use Committee, investigators, and animal care staff are responsible for the well-being of the animal subsequent to its arrival at their institution. Justification for use of surgically-modified animals, review of experimental protocols, authorization to order animals that are surgically modified from Charles River, and all aspects concerning the use of surgically-modified animals after they arrive at the institution are the responsibility of the receiving institution's IACUC.

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