

OVARIECTOMY

ORDER CODE: OVARIEX

SPECIES: Rat, Mouse, Guinea Pig

DIET SUPPLEMENT: None required

This procedure results in the removal of the ovaries. Ovariectomized animals are often used to study metabolic and physiological conditions associated with hormonal changes, such as osteoporosis. They are also used for studies in which normal reproduction and reproductive hormone cycles are undesired.

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. A dorsal midline skin incision is made caudal to the posterior border of the ribs. Using blunt dissection to tunnel subcutaneously, lateral to the skin incision, the muscles of the posterior abdominal wall are separated in order to enter the abdominal cavity. The ovary is located in a fat pad just beneath the muscles. Using forceps, the periovarian fat is gently grasped to lift and exteriorize the ovary. Mosquito forceps are used to crush the fallopian tube and cranial-most part of the uterine horn distal to the ovary, being careful not to crush or contact the ovary. The ovary is removed by cutting above the clamped area. The uterine horn is returned into the abdomen, and the process is repeated on the other side. The skin 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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