AUSTIN HEALTH ANIMAL MONITORING SHEET

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Investigator Name |  | Ph/Mobile No: |  |
| Cage/Animal ID Number |  | Ethics Number |  |
| Species, Strain, Sex, Age, etc. |  |
| **CLINICAL OBSERVATION****(0/N and above)** | DATES and TIMES |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Category I** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alertness/Sleeping |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coat |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rectum/Faeces |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urine |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Movement/gait |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nose |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vocalisation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grimace Pain Score |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Surgical site (3 days mini) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Analgesia ( ) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Tumour site (if relevant)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tumour size mm3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ulceration |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Necrosis |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Category II |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Anaemia |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Body condition |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Body weight (g) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| % weight loss (from highest weight)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Body weight score |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Breathing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dehydration |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Drinking |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eating |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eyes |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL SCORE** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| COMMENTS /INITIAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

##### CLINICAL SIGNS SEVERITY SCORE – Category I (1-3)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SIGNS** | **Score 0** | **Score 1** | **Score 2** | **Score 3** |
| **Activity** | normal | isolated, abnormal posture | huddled/inactive, isolated OR overactive | **Moribund OR fitting** |
| **Alertness/Sleeping** | normal | dull or depressed | little response to handling | **Unconscious** |
| **Coat** | normal | coat rough | unkempt; superficial wounds, hair thinning, slight pilo-erection | **Bleeding or infected deep wounds, or severe hair loss, severe pilo- erection or self mutilation** |
| **Rectum/Faeces**  | normal | faeces moist or slight rectal prolapse that is transient | loose, soiled perineum or blood present. Black hard faeces or rectal (< 4mm) prolapse present | **Presence of diarrhoea for 48 hours OR no faeces for 48 hrs OR presence of blood and rectum is prolapsed with ≥4mm tissue exposed** |
| **Urine** | normal |  | abnormal colour\*\*/volume(\*\*requires further investigation by testing with Uristix or Multistix to confirm if blood, haemoglobin, myoglobin or protein is present) | **Urine discoloration continuing over a 12 hour period or anuria/polyuria observed over a 24 hour period** |
| **Movement/ gait** | normal | slight OR abnormal gait | walking on tiptoe OR reluctance to move  | **Staggering OR limb dragging OR paralysis** |
| **Nose** | normal | wetness | discharge | **Obstruction of nasal passages or constant purulent discharge** |
| **Vocalisation** | normal | squeaks when palpated | struggles and squeaks loudly in response to handling of a body part & signs of aggression | **Persistent and repetitive vocalisation without handling** |
| **Grimace Score to indicate pain in rodents** **Refer to Grimace poster and pictures** **\*Provide analgesia and monitor for improvement** | eyes normal nose & cheeks normalear position normalwhisker position normal | narrowing of the eyeSome bulging presentEars rotated outward or back slightly moved from normal position either forward or back. | eyes are squeezed shut or closedcheeks and or nose appear shortened and bulgingears unnaturally rotated outward or are pulled back flatWhiskers completely flat or standing on end or clumped together | **The Grimace score is used to indicate pain in rodents for intervention i.e. pain relief or euthanasia in conjunction with other observed clinical signs** |
| **Surgical site appearance****Min check daily for 3 days post-surgery** | normal (no swelling or redness) | mild redness, mild swelling of wound | presence of discharge and presence of moderate swelling, slight wound dehiscence. | **Redness and swelling of the wound and/or separation of wound edges. \*Euthanasia if re-suturing and/or surgical interventions fail** |
| **Tumour Size** | normal/no change | *[Complete based on tumour model]*  | *[Complete based on the tumour model ]*  | *[Complete based on the tumour model]*  |
| **Tumour Ulceration:** \*If ulceration is characteristic of the tumour model then intervention criteria must be based on the earliest possible humane endpoint for data collection. | normal/no signs present | some necrosis present but skin is intact  | **If ulceration is present, please contact the BRF Manager or AWO.**some surface ulceration present but wound is dry (not weeping).  | **If ulceration is present, please contact the BRF Manager or AWO.****Euthanasia criteria will consider the size, appearance and depth of the ulceration in addition to the overall general health and behaviour of the animal (i.e. cumulative assessment).** |

**CLINICAL SIGNS SEVERITY SCORE – Category II (4-6)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SIGNS** | **Score 0** | **Score 4** |  **Score 5** | **Score 6** |
| **Anaemia**\*(place cage on heat pad and provide fluids) | Normal  | some paleness to ears and paws | fur is pilo-erect, with pale ears and paws but animal is active and otherwise healthy | **Animal is cold and hunched displays white ears, paws with no improvement in 24hrs when placed on heat pad and given fluids and supplements**. |
| **Body condition** | normal | thin | loss of body fat, failure to grow | **Loss of muscle mass that enables palpation of the spine** |
| **Body weight**\*(Provide food supplements) | normal weight and growth rate | reduced growth rate | chronic weight loss >10%\*\* OR failure to grow (\*\*chronic is over 7 days) | **Acute weight loss >10% \*****Chronic weight loss 15% \*\* OR failure to grow for juveniles or failure to stabilise body weight (\*over 3 days)** |
| **Breathing** | normal | rapid, shallow | rapid or abdominal breathing, rales. | **Laboured, irregular, or gaping mouth breathing, and/or blue skin around extremities (cyanosis)** |
| **Dehydration** \*(provide fluids) | none | skin less elastic | skin tenting / sunken abdomen | **Skin tenting & eyes and abdomen sunken** |
| **Drinking** | normal | increased OR decreased intake over 24 hrs | increased OR decreased intake over 48 hours | **Constantly drinking OR not drinking over 24 hours** |
| **Eating** \*(provide food supplements) | normal | increased OR decreased intake over 24 hours | increased OR decreased intake over 48 hours | **Obese OR not eating over 48 hours** **(amend for obese strains)** |
| **Eyes** | normal | wetness or dullness | discharge, eyes closing over, inflammation or irritation of the conjunctiva. | **Severe eye infection with vision obstructed, no improvement after 3 days of treatment and animals displaying signs of significant pain or distress (Grimace Scale)** |
| **SPECIAL HUSBANDRY REQUIREMENTS FOR SICK ANIMALS**Can nutritional supplements be provided : YES/ NO Circle what can be provided: Sunflower seeds, Sustagen, Food Mash, Recovery /Hydro Gels, Peanut butter, Saline  |

**Humane Intervention and Endpoint Scores**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Total Score**  | **Classification/Action Refer to Criteria below** |
| **0-1** | Good Health |
| **2-4** | Animal is unwell and should be monitored daily  |
| **5-9** | Health to be monitored twice daily at minimum (morning and evening) |
| **9-12** | Poor Health – Seek further advice from the BRF Manager or AWO. Observe animal twice daily minimum, if no improvement within 24 hours mandatory euthanasia.  |
| **13 and above** | **Mandatory euthanasia** |

# **HUMANE INTERVENTION/ENDPOINT CRITERIA**

**Category I clinical signs:**

Mandatory euthanasia must be performed with animals with **a single** **score of 3** for any clinical signs from Category I.

Separate from the condition above, the animals will be closely monitored or euthanised based on the total scoring system. **Possible Actions: Place cage on a heat pad (half on/off) and provide food supplements and analgesia.**

**Category II clinical signs:**

Mandatory euthanasia must be performed with animals with **a single** **score of 6** for any clinical sign from Category II. This includes acute or chronic weight loss at the maximums approved in the application.

Animals with a **single score of 4 from** Category IIwill be closely monitored and symptoms recorded **once daily**. Animals with a **single** **score of 5 require** from Category II require twice daily monitoring and symptoms recorded in the morning and afternoon (with 5 hour gap between). Seek advice from the BRF Manager or AWO. If there is no improvement, twice daily monitoring must continue until animal improves/recovers (or meets humane endpoints). **Possible Actions: Place cage on a heat pad (half on/off) and provide food supplements and analgesia.**

**Separate from the conditions above**, the animals will be closely monitored or euthanised based on the total scoring system as given below.

**Guidelines to Completing your Monitoring Sheet:**

1. Amend this sheet to reflect the specific animal model in your experiment i.e. if over 15% weight loss is expected in the first 2 days of the experiment (followed by recovery), justify in your application and request approval for an increased percentage.
2. Where possible ensure the baseline weight (or weight range), prior to experiment, is provided.
3. Any additional observations tailored to the monitoring requirements for each experiment are added i.e. Prolapsed rectum, pregnancy and tumour size.
4. Remove irrelevant clinical signs. Justify and inform the committee under Section 3 Monitoring.
5. Each animal must be examined and observed for abnormalities at each time point (weekly or daily, twice daily, out of hours, etc. as appropriate). Record the time intervals between same day observations.
6. Normal clinical signs are recorded as “0” or “N”
7. Severity of each abnormality must be scored, e.g., Breathing 3, Coat 2, Eyes 0
8. Comments concerning abnormalities are recorded in the comments section of the table
9. Surgical site appearance must be checked daily for a minimum of 3 days or until completely healed.

**On the following day (after surgery), animals and the surgical site must be monitored with clinical score assessments recorded twice daily, once in the morning and again in the afternoon (minimum of 6 hours gap) and weighed minimum once daily. If the animal/s are recovering well, and depending on the analgesia that is being administered, monitoring may then be extended to a minimum of daily for the next 2 days.**