

	SOP: Operating Instructions (EUTHANEX® CO₂ Euthanasia System)

RODENTS ONLY

Please contact a DCM supervisor or veterinarian for all other species.

Pre-filling the chamber:

1. Attach the quick-disconnect tube to the stainless steel cover and place the cover on the cage (euthanasia chamber).
2. On the mixer box, turn the large dial counter-clockwise to 100 %.
3. Turn the flow dial (small dial) counter-clockwise to 25.
4. Run for 30 seconds (use timer provided).
5. Return flow to 0.

Euthanizing the animal(s):

6. For mice: remove filter fop from the small mouse cage (but keep the wire lid on) and quickly place the mouse cage into the euthanasia chamber.

For rats: place the rat directly into the euthanasia chamber.

Re-cover the chamber.

7. Turn the flow dial counter-clockwise to 25.
8. Run until all signs of respiration cease (usually 2-5 minutes, but is variable).
9. Once respiration has ceased, return flow to 0.
10. Wait for 1-2 minutes, then remove the cover from the cage and check each animal for vital signs. If vital signs are noted, repeat steps 6-10.
11. Ensure death by one of the following methods (as specified by your animal use protocol):
 - Thoracotomy
 - Cervical dislocation
 - Decapitation
12. Please dispose of animal properly. Be sure that the bag containing the animal carcass is properly identified. Tags are located on the door to the freezer (MSB 941).