

Conducting studies at the

Pre-Clinical MRI Research Core

Location: NE2.726

Contact:

Janaka Wansapura, PhD,
Director/Pre-Clinical MRI Research Core
Advanced Imaging Research Center
Ph: x56498

1. **MRI Protocol:** Submit a Project Application (see attached). In the application, please provide a detailed description of the types of MRI scans to be performed, including relevant imaging parameters, if known, e.g., T2 weighted multi slice axial, TE=36, TR=2500, etc. If replicating a published study, please provide a reference. If it is not a routine protocol, the core may require additional time to develop a scan protocol for your specific study.

After reviewing the Project Application, the core will contact you to discuss your MRI protocol, including the feasibility of the project, need for new developments (if any), revisions to the proposed MRI methods, scan time, number of animals, timeline of implementation, etc.

2. **Animal Protocol:** Make sure your IACUC protocol includes MR imaging. The Core has its own protocol in which relevant imaging methods are stated.
2016-101756 core- mice
2016-101762 core -rat
3. **Scanner Fees:** All services offered by the Core and the corresponding fees are listed in the Core Business Plan (see attached). Note: FY22 business will apply from 01/22.
4. **Operator training:** We offer training for the operation of MRI scanners for those who wish to conduct MRI experiments by themselves. The fees for self-operated scans are substantially less than that for the staff-operated scans.
5. **Collaborating with the Core:** We welcome collaborations with investigators on projects that are of mutual interest, and that benefit the Core. We have extensive expertise in the field of pre-clinical MRI imaging including method development and image processing. Collaboration with the core entitles this expertise in exchange of effort inclusion in grant proposals. Please contact the Core director for further information.
6. **Reservations:** After confirming the MRI protocol, reserve time on the appropriate equipment on **days/times as directed** by the core.
Go to Pre-Clinical MRI Research core on iLab following the link below and reserve time on the appropriate scanner using your lab's credentials. Please see attached guidelines for making reservations on the iLab.
https://utsw.corefacilities.org/service_center/5370/?tab=equipment
and click on **MRI** and then on the equipment (e.g. **7T Bruker**)

7. **Animal Transfer:** Request ARC to transfer the mice to NE2.526. Transfer the animals at least 3 days prior to the date you book the scanner.
8. **Cancellation Policy (self-operated scans):**
 - a. You must cancel a booking no later than 48 hrs before the scheduled starting time to avoid being charged for the total booked time.
 - b. If you were not able to use the booked time in whole or in part due to some technical reason (e.g. scanner broke down, animals died) please notify the core by email and we will discount the booking on a case-by-case basis. Please note that not achieving desired outcome alone is not a valid reason to disregard the usage time.
9. **Study identification scheme (staff-operated scans):** To organize MRI data, each study will be given a unique *Study ID* starting with the PI's name. (e.g. Smith_ORG205_ODG_MiceProject 2). Each animal under this study will have a unique *Subject ID* (e.g. Smith_EP10). These IDs will appear in the image files we send you.

Prior to the study date please email the following:

- a. Number of cages and the number of animals in each cage
- b. Preferred *Study ID*
- c. The *Subject IDs* and a vivid description of how the animals should be identified.

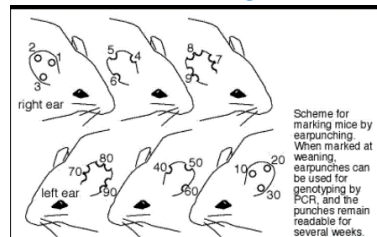
e.g.

Mice are identified with letters and ear notches.

Cage # xxxxx (n=3), IDs: EP1, EP10, EP3

Cage # xxxxx (n=2), IDs: AP2, AP4

Ear notch numbering scheme is as follows



10. **Lab Contact:** Please provide a cell phone number for the contact person for the lab.
11. **Attending scanning sessions (staff-operated scans):** You may be present during scanning sessions. If you wish to do so, please arrange with the core so that you can gain access to the scanner room during the study.
12. **Data transfer:** All data will be in DICOM format. A link to folder containing you data will be sent to you within 24 hrs upon the completion of the study