

DOPS Assessment of practical skills

Blood sampling a mouse from a superficial vein

Assessment criteria/ Grading

(Please tick boxes according to criteria demonstrated)



“Below expectations” [BE]

- Fails to check legal authorities, animal details, id; Fails to choose suitable PPE
- Poor animal handling, or risk of injury; animal showing signs of distress
- Unsuitable site, volume or preparation for sampling
- Use of scalpel to cut skin and obtain sample
- Incorrect operation, timing or application of warming (eg heat box) or restrainer

“Borderline” [Bo]

- Carries out procedure but with hesitation
- More than 2 attempts needed to perform sampling, or insufficient sample

Requirements for “meets expectations” [ME]

- Checks correct Licence authorities & animal’s id
- Knows correct blood volume to collect
- Wears correct PPE (mask, gloves); operation of downdraft/ flow hood
- Choose suitable equipment: needle 25-27g, or lancet, collection pot
- Ensures Warming equipment is switched on and clean before use
- Removes mouse from cage not using tail; handles gently, body supported;
- Uses warming equipment correctly: Chamber dwell time <10 min., Temp. <39 °C
- Adjusts restrainer to hold mouse safely
- Collects blood sample within 3 attempts;
- Applies haemostasis until bleeding stops
- Allow mouse’s feet to touch floor of cage before release
- Handles sample appropriately; labels collection pot
- Updates Cage label/record
- Carries out Post-procedure check for mouse
- Demonstrates respect towards staff and animals throughout
- Leaves workspace clean & tidy
- Communicates effectively

“Exceeds expectations” [EE] as “meets” and e.g:

- Uses Microsampling (capillary sample)
- Capable and empathetic animal handling
- Explain reasons for choice of equipment with respect to 3Rs
- Demonstrates excellent manual dexterity in handling and sampling

Requirement to be assessed as COMPETENT: One borderline score or better.

Candidates scoring “Below expectations” on any point OR two borderline scores are recommended to “continue supervision”

Feedback for trainee:

Things done particularly well	
Learning points	
Action points	
Formative Only <input type="checkbox"/>	Trainee Not yet competent <input type="checkbox"/>
Trainee Competent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Assessor Name : _____ Signature : _____	Trainee Name : _____ Signature : _____
DATE:	

GLOBAL RATING: COMPETENT

CONTINUE SUPERVISION