Husbandry Description for Mice Maintained in the Gnotobiotic Core at MSK, WCM, and HSS for the Materials and Methods Section of a Scientific Manuscript

Axenic or gnotobiotic mice are housed in autoclaved, solid-bottom, polyphenylsulfone, individually ventilated, sealed positive pressure cages (Sentry SPP, Allentown Inc., Allentown, NJ) on autoclaved aspen-chip bedding (PWI Industries Canada, Quebec, Canada); γ-irradiated and autoclaved feed (LabDiet 5KA1 , PMI, St Louis, MO) and autoclaved reverse osmosis water provided ad libitum . The cages also contain autoclaved Nestlets® and EnviroPaks® as environmental enrichment. The cages are ventilated at approximately 100 air changes hourly (ACH). Room air, HEPA-filtered at the rack level and again at the cage level, is supplied to each cage and the rack effluent is exhausted directly into the building's exhaust system after HEPA filtration. Cages are changed as complete sterile units, as needed, in a HEPA-filtered horizontal laminar flow change station (Nuaire, Plymouth, MN) using sterile gloves and sterile technique. The animal holding room is maintained at 72 ± 2 °F (21.5 ± 1 °C), relative humidity between 30% and 70%, and a 12:12 hour (light:dark) photoperiod. Animal use is approved by Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's or the Weill Cornell Medicine/Hospital for Special Surgery IACUC[1]. The animal care and use program is AAALAC-accredited and operates in accordance with the recommendations provided in the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (8th edition)*[2].

[1] Select IACUC based on institution

[2] Institute for Laboratory Animal Research. 2011. *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, 8th ed. Washington (DC): National Academies Press.