



LAR BULLETIN

“The Bull”

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In This Issue:

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- **New Animal Management System Going Live in January**
- **Attention N95 Users!**

Check out the updated LAR homepage!

Please drop in to our new webpage to check out updated features including the new online *Animal Order*, *Work Order*, and *Animal Transfer Request* forms. These can be found under the Forms tab on the top menu bar. In addition, we are busy developing an updated, online *Cage Card Request* form. It's not ready for Prime Time yet, so stay tuned to the webpage for further updates. Users of the current *Cage Card Request* form are well aware of its shortcomings, especially the fact that it is primarily a hard copy paper form that is not electronically submittable, except as an e-mail attachment. Our goal with all of these forms is to make them as user friendly as possible while still collecting the information necessary for our technicians to perform the requested tasks accurately and in a timely manner. We are interested in your feedback as we continue to refine and improve these forms, so please contact Steve Cary at Steven.Cary@colostate.edu if you have any suggestions. If you have LAR bookmarked, please also be sure to update to the new address: <https://www.research.colostate.edu/lar/>

LAR Staff and Veterinarians Present at Local and National AALAS Meetings!

We had a lot of great projects going on this past year and are super excited to have them be accepted for presentation at both this year's local Mile High Branch AALAS Meeting and the National AALAS meeting in Phoenix, AZ. Congratulations to everyone!

Local MHB Presenters:

- Erin McWhorter-*Androgen receptor and GPRC6A in the human and sheep placenta.* (Poster).
- Suhrim Fisher-*CO2 Induced Pulmonary Hemorrhage—Strain Differences.* (Poster).



QUESTIONS, COMMENTS?
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We're on the Web!
Check us out:
[LAR homepage](#)

- Jennifer Kopanke-*Marked Trematodiasis in a Population of Wild-Caught Trinidadian Guppies.* (Poster).
- Denise Ostmeyer/Anna Kendall/Janel Trumble/Jessica Ayers-*A Six Sigma Approach to Customer Concerns Regarding Empty Guinea Pig Water Bottles.* (Poster).
- Emily Milching (summer extern)-*An analysis of growth factor concentrations in rabbit Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP) intended for accelerated ligament healing.* (Poster).
- Stephen Murray, et al. (summer extern)-*Lactate Dehydrogenase isozymes as biomarkers for the progression of tuberculosis infection in Guinea Pigs.* (Poster).
- Erin Lee-Brown *Banded Bamboo Shark (Chiloscyllium punctatum) as a Teaching Model of Developmental Biology.* (Talk).
- Lon Kendall-SR *Buprenorphine in Guinea Pigs.* (Talk).

National AALAS Meeting Presenters:

- Parkpoom Siriarchavatana/Jessica Ayers/Lon Kendall-*Comparison of anesthetic activity of Alfaxan® to ketamine in mice.* (Talk-Jessica Ayers).
- Jessica Ayers/Jackson Watkins/Phillip Knabenbauer/Lon Kendall/Karen Dobos-*Disinfection Quality Control in an ABSL-3 Environment Housing Burkholderia pseudomallei-infected Mice.* (Poster).
- Denise Ostmeyer/Anna Kendall/Janel Trumble/Jessica Ayers-*A Six Sigma Approach to Concerns Regarding Empty Guinea Pig Water Bottles.* (Poster).
- Lon Kendall et al.-*Pharmacokinetics and Efficacy of Sustained-Release Buprenorphine in Guinea Pigs.* (Talk).
- Lon Kendall/Elaine Kim-*A Working Model of Veterinary Verification and Consultation to Reduce Regulatory Burden.* (Talk).
- Suhrim Fisher-*CO2 Induced Pulmonary Hemorrhage—Strain Differences.* (Talk).
- Erin Lee, et al.-*Thermal Imaging as an Alternative to PIT Tagging for Monitoring Body Temperature and Clinical Disease Progression in Mice.* (Poster).
- Erin Lee-Brown *Banded Bamboo Shark (Chiloscyllium punctatum) as a Teaching Model of Developmental Biology.* (Talk).
- Jennifer Kopanke-*Marked Trematodiasis in a Population of Wild-Caught Trinidadian Guppies.* (Poster).

Ongoing Six Sigma Initiatives

Last year, LAR's leadership team participated in "Green Belt" training to learn how to use Six Sigma methods for improving efficiency and quality. Six Sigma is a set of business tools that aims to improve processes and save money. We have completed two projects to date with many more to come. The changes we have implemented are expected to save staff time and decrease overhead

expenses which in the long run may positively impact future per diem rates.

Our first project looked at the frequency of re-filling guinea pig water bottles. Over the years we had refilled bottles more and more frequently in an attempt to eliminate the occasional finding of an empty water bottle. However, we would still find empty bottles due to the fact that some guinea pigs play with their water and drain their bottles rapidly. Our Six Sigma project led us to the conclusion that we were wasting time, equipment, and water, and could safely refill bottles less often at a defined point without harming the animals. We followed up with blood tests and behavioral observations to confirm that animals were not becoming dehydrated in the event that they spent a part of their day without water. As a result of the Six Sigma project, we are using less water bottles, saving time, and decreasing ergonomic strain to our staff, while maintaining a high standard of animal welfare.

Our second project looked at how we dispose of mouse bedding from prion infected animals. Our analysis identified an opportunity for significant savings by changing the type of bag and labeling system we use. This simple change saves us about \$1.70 per bag of bedding, adding up to considerable savings over time.

The Six Sigma initiative will be an on-going venture at LAR. We have several projects we are currently looking at and expect to continue realizing improvements in both quality and efficiency.

New Animal Management System Coming Soon

The replacement for the Granite animal ordering and management system has been in the works for most of this year, but is almost ready for implementation. This program will integrate into eProtocol so that animal ordering and tracking becomes much easier for administrators and users. At this time, the plan is for all information to be transferred over to the new system and for it to go live January 2nd, although this is subject to change as last minute details are worked on. Administrator training has already started and animal user training sessions will become available over the next couple of months-please keep a look out for those announcements.

3M Has Updated the 9210 Model N95 Respirator

A new version of the 9210 mask is being released and 3M has instructed facilities that this new version unfortunately needs to be re-FIT tested prior to use. Due to the limited resources available for FIT testing on campus, EHS and Biosafety are not planning to schedule early FIT tests, but rather try to keep a large enough supply of the current 9210's on hand to use until your regularly scheduled FIT test, where you will be tested on the **new 9210 Plus** version.

This means that there will be BOTH versions of the 9210 on most shelves in containment areas so please pay attention to the packaging and **only use the mask that you have been FIT tested for!** If you notice a shortage of the old mask in your area, please contact the local facility supervisor and let them know.

