

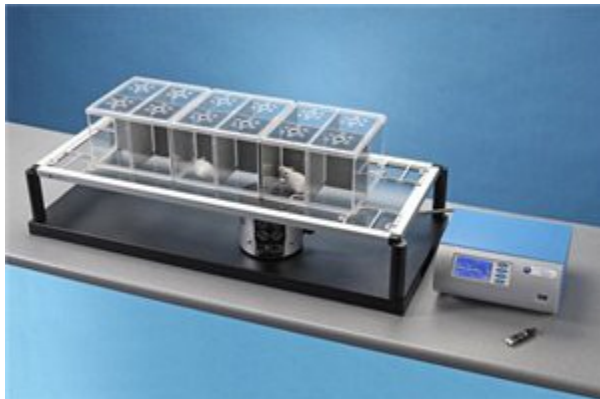
Hargreaves Test
IACUC Standard Procedure
Effective Date: October 2021

Description of Procedure:

The Hargreaves test is specifically designed to assess thermal pain sensation in rodents. A thermal stimulus, generated by a focused light source, is applied indirectly to the plantar surface of the hind paw of an animal. The response to this stimulus consists of withdrawal of the stimulated paw.

Procedure Steps:

1. An animal is placed on a transparent glass surface and a 3-sided, 3 X 5 clear container, is positioned over the animal with the open end of the container in contact with the glass surface. Movement is limited but the animal is not restrained.
2. Withdrawal of the hind paw occurs when stimulated from below, through the glass table.
3. Once the animal withdraws the hind paw, the stimulus is removed. Time to withdraw is recorded.
4. If there is no response by 20 seconds, the test is terminated. Temperatures range from 45°C to 52°C.



(Photo credit: Linton Instruments)