



INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE  
AND USE COMMITTEE

## IACUC POLICY # 21 Calibration and Inspection of Anesthetic Systems

An anesthetic system is defined as the whole anesthesia delivery apparatus including but not limited to the vaporizer, gas monitors, tubing and F/AIR charcoal canisters. All anesthetic systems used for animal survival surgical procedures must be registered with the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and Animal Resource Facility (ARF). Anesthetic systems must be inspected and calibrated once every three years.

The F/AIR charcoal canister (anesthesia gas filter) is specifically designed to remove waste anesthetic gases such as Isoflurane and Enflurane from the operating environment. These canisters have a finite usable life span and investigators must be aware of the total use of a canister to assure that it is still functional.

The manufacturer states that a single F/AIR canister can remove 50 grams of halogenated anesthetic waste. The canisters should be checked before and after each use to determine if it is still functional. The use should be recorded on the canister in the space provided.

### Procedure:

1. Weigh the canister when it is initially put into use and record the weight in the table provided.
2. After each use, reweigh the canister and record the weight (it will be higher than the start weight).
3. The canister should be replaced when the weight has increased by **50 grams**.