

**UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL MEDICINE**

Submandibular Blood Collection – Mouse SOP #PRO-008

Mice have a small vascular bundle at the back of the jaw where the orbital vein, submandibular vein, and other facial veins join. This area can be punctured to obtain blood with minimal pain or distress.

Yield: up to 75µl

Equipment required:

- 5 mm lancet
- Blood collection vessel (e.g., Microtainer® tube)
- Gauze sponge

Technique:

1. Restrain mouse using the one-handed technique.
2. The puncture point is at the back of the jaw, slightly behind the hinge of the jawbone and toward the ear. Avoiding the jawbone, puncture just behind the point at which the upper and lower jawbones meet.
3. The puncture should be done with enough force to quickly insert the lancet point to the hilt.
4. Quickly position the collection vessel to collect blood. The blood may flow rapidly then slow in a very short time.
5. After the sample has been collected, apply gentle pressure to the site with a gauze sponge to stop the bleeding.
6. Return animal to its cage.
7. Observe animal for bleeding or any signs of pain or distress.

Submandibular technique website: <http://www.medipoint.com>



www.medipoint.com