

DISTRIBUTION OF MOUSE STRAINS

Policy Number: 609GS

Effective Date: 6/1/16

Revised Date: 6/26/17; 11/09/2020

Scope

This Policy on Distribution of Mouse Strains applies to faculty, staff, predoctoral researchers, summer scholars and applicants ("Covered Individuals") of The Graduate School of the Stowers Institute for Medical Research ("The School").

This Policy applies to a transfer of published mouse strains from the SIMR Laboratory Animal Support Facility (LASF) to non-profit organizations for research purposes. This policy does not apply to published mouse strains created by Stowers-funded researchers who are hosted at other institutions. For these researchers, the host institution's policy on the distribution of materials shall apply.

Purpose

SIMR considers the sharing of research materials to be an essential aspect of scientific citizenship and is committed to the broad distribution of research materials that have been created and published by Covered Individuals. The SGC issues this policy to accommodate special considerations involving the distribution of mouse strains.

The School is included in the Stowers Group of Companies ("SGC") Organizations and has adopted the following policy as its own.

Policy

For mouse strains that are held in repositories, the SGC will refer inquiries to the repository. However, in cases where either 1) the repository reports an exceptional delay in shipment or 2) a principal investigator of SIMR asks for direct shipment to a collaborator, the SGC will make its best effort to provide the requested strains.

For mouse strains that are not held in repositories and that have been created and published by Covered Individuals while at SIMR, SIMR will provide the strains to non-profit organizations for research purposes. SIMR will provide an estimate of the shipping date within 30 days and make its best effort to ship the strains within 6 to 12 months. SIMR will ask requesters to reimburse SIMR for costs directly related to filling the request. This reimbursement will include the costs of preparing and shipping the materials but will exclude costs such as overhead or a share of research expenses. In some cases, SIMR will export unpublished strains with the permission of the principal investigator whose laboratory created the strain.

For mouse strains that are not held in repositories and that have not been created by Covered Individuals, SIMR will export the strains under the following circumstances:

1. The strain request is to support an active collaboration with a Covered Individual;
2. The requested transfer is expressly permitted by the source of the strain;
3. The LASF has sufficient capacity to accommodate the request, as determined by the Director of the LASF and the Scientific Director; and
4. The requester will reimburse the SGC for its costs.

The transfer of all mouse strains will be covered by the appropriate Material Transfer Agreement (see Policy 606, “Material Transfer Agreements”).

Any exceptions to this policy require written approval by the Scientific Director.

This policy was approved by the GSSIMR Board of Directors on September 5, 2018.

This policy was last updated by the GSSIMR Board of Directors on November 09, 2020.

This policy will be reviewed by the GSSIMR Board of Directors in 2022.