Confirm that everyone working with animals is listed on an approved CAC protocol. Investigators should be familiar with their CAC protocol contents.

Confirm all procedures (even pilots and collaborations) involving animals are described on an approved CAC protocol. Confirm addenda are approved. Plan ahead for expirations.

Confirm all rodents are arriving only through proper institutional channels, ordered through DCM.

Ensure DCM Area Supervisor(s) are provided with “Special diet and/or water” forms for all active studies. Confirm all are described in an approved CAC protocol.

All food or water regulations require daily observation and documentation via the cage cards. Training confirmation for food or water regulations is required.

Any mouse food or water in labs should be properly labeled with identity and an expiration date. All rodents diets and rewards should be stored in vermin proof containers.

All rodents must return to the animal facility for overnight housing. Used caging and supplies are returned immediately to an animal facility for disposal and cleaning. No accumulations of clean animal facility supplies in lab spaces.

Ensure all materials used in survival procedures are properly labeled, not expired, and logged properly. Needles, syringes, drugs stored properly.

All surgeries require: sterile prep and technique, analgesics or an exemption, use of the surgery card including thorough post-op follow up. Training documentation is required for all surgeons and perfusions. Clean dedicated anesthesia space, euthanasia space, and surgical space available. Procedure areas clean, clutter free, undamaged, and sanitizable.

Behavioral assays must use sanitizable apparati that are cleaned between trials. Remember to clean used equipment and area thoroughly after each experiment is complete.

Ensure all behavior test spaces including countertops and floors are cleaned regularly.

Confirm that rodents are dead after CO2 or isoflurane euthanasia using a secondary physical method. This is now required for all rodents on MIT campus.

Post DCM contact information prominently in your lab in case of an animal emergency. Be familiar with campus emergency procedures.