

## **IACUC Guideline for Light Intensity Levels and Animal Cage Placement in Rodent Rooms in the ARC Facilities at UWM**

*Last Review: 4/2022*

*Revision History:*

According to the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, “Light levels of about 325 lux (30-ft candles) approximately 1 m (3.3 ft) above the floor appear to be sufficient for animal care and do not cause clinical signs of phototoxic retinopathy in albino rats.”

In all animal rooms, light intensities are measured at 1 meter above the floor in the center of the room and at the level of the top shelves in the room.

Measurements are taken every 3 years or as needed.

- If light intensities at the center of the room exceed 325 lux, light bulbs are removed from overhead lighting until intensities are reduced below 325 lux.
- If light intensities at the top shelf level exceed 325 lux, tinted plastic sleeves are placed around the overhead light bulbs, or light bulbs are removed from light fixtures, to reduce light intensity below 325 lux.
- Animals within micro isolator units have reduced light intensities at the cage level due to the filter top on the cage.
- Placement of cages on the top shelf is avoided if possible.