

Animal care and use statement

The animal handling protocol was designed to minimize pain or discomfort to the animals. The animals were acclimatized to laboratory conditions for two weeks before experimentation. The animals were kept under defined conventional conditions (temperature: 19-21 °C, humidity: 30-70%, day-night cycle of 12 h with light changes at 6:00 am and 6:00 pm) with up to three animals per cage. The conditions were recorded hourly by sensor hourly and were personally controlled daily. The animals had access to food (1324 TPF - totally pathogen-free, Altromin) and water ad libitum. For the implementation of anesthesia, isoflurane (3.0%-4.0%) was used in combination with oxygen (0.5 L/min). All animals were euthanized by exsanguination under general anesthesia.

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