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| <b>University of Notre Dame<br/>Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Policy</b> |                                   |
| <b>Title: Animal Separation by Species, Source, and Health Status</b>                          |                                   |
| <b>Effective Date: 7/10/24</b>   | <b>Last Revised Date: 7/10/24</b> |

### **I. Purpose**

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Because of the potential for interspecies disease transmission and anxiety due to interspecies conflict, housing of animals should involve consideration of species, source, and their health.

### **II. Policy**

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1. Physical separation of animals by species is required to reduce the possibility of transmission of latent diseases.
  - a. Separation can be accomplished by housing different species in separate rooms, cubicles or other physical barriers.
2. When animals of the same species are obtained from multiple sources, their microbiological status may differ. Animals from multiple sources may be housed in the same physical space at the discretion of the attending veterinarian after it has been determined that they share a similar, minimum health status.
3. Any exception to this policy requires scientific justification and IACUC approval in an active protocol.

### **III. References**

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1. Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, 8th ed., National Research Council, 2011, p.111