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## Transcardial Perfusion in Mouse

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**Protocol status:** Working

We use this protocol and it's working



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## Abstract

This protocol details about the transcardial perfusion in mouse.

## Attachments




[338-741.pdf](#)

527KB





## Materials

### Materials Needed:



- Aluminum-wrapped Styrofoam
  - Plastic lid (to capture runoff)
  - Labmat (on bench and on styrofoam)
  -  30 mL syringe with butterfly needle with cut tip
- \*Fill with 30 mL PBS and push PBS through tubing so all air bubbles are expelled.
- Perfusion pump: 100-120 mL/hour

### Dissection tools



- 1 tube with 2 small drops heparin for blood
- 1 tube for tail
- 2 conicals with ethanol or formalin fixative
-  30 mL /mouse  0.1 Molarity (M) PBS + heparin (1:100)
- 70% ethanol bottle

### 4% PFA in 0.1 M NaPO4 (1L)

Dissolve into 500ml diH2O:



-  11.36 g sodium phosphate dibasic
-  2.76 g sodium phosphate monobasic

Once dissolved:

- Add  40 g PFA (powder)
- Fill to  1 L with diH2O

## Troubleshooting

## Transcardial Perfusion

- 1 Make mixture of ketamine:xylazine:acepromazine (4:2:1) sufficient for anesthesia of all mice (~  30  $\mu$ L /  20 g mouse). Record ketamine used in controlled substance log book.
- 2 Apply anesthesia to one mouse via intraperitoneal injection, and place mouse in bucket long enough for anesthesia to take effect. Apply a hard toe pinch until mouse no longer reacts, ensuring that the mouse can no longer feel pain before proceeding.
- 3 Place mouse, abdomen-up, on Styrofoam block wrapped in lab mat. Spray mouse abdomen with 70% ethanol. Grasp skin below ribcage with forceps and cut skin with scissors from middle up either side towards the armpits, cutting through ribcage.

### Note

Avoid blood vessels and organs. Diaphragm should carefully be cut circumferentially.

- 4 Remove pericardium and peripheral fat to expose heart. Hold back ribs with hemostats.

### Note

\* At this point blood can be taken via syringe from the right ventricle if desired.

 200  $\mu$ L to  300  $\mu$ L should be sufficient.

- 5 Place blunted butterfly needle into left ventricle and cut right atrium. Push PBS through syringe by using perfusion pump at 2 mL/minute rate.

### Note

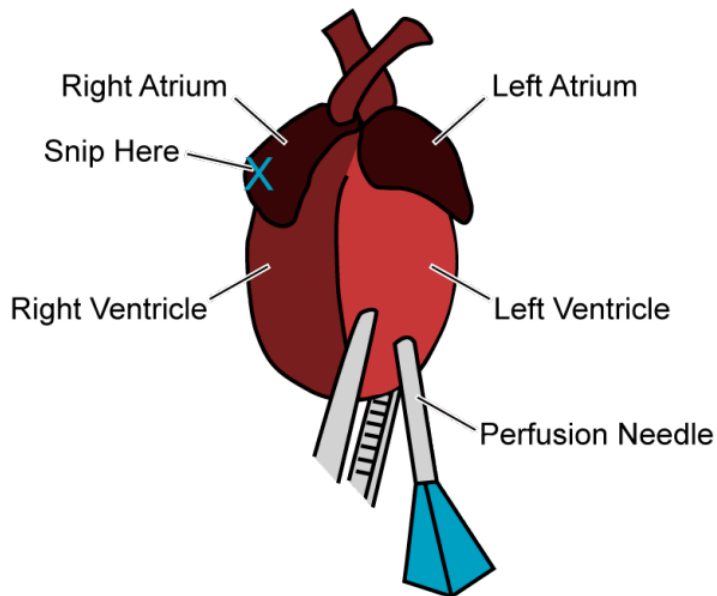
Liver should lose pigment and effluent should be dark blood then become more PBS as perfusion continues.

- 6 After perfusion is complete, remove brain, spinal cord and other desired parts and transfer to fixative.

### Note

\* Brain can be removed by carefully drilling hole with scissors at olfactory bulb junction and spreading scissors apart so skull splits in half.



### Perfusion Schematic



## Perfusion Solutions

- 7 Weigh PFA under the hood and using bench pads.
- 8 Heat and stir (in chemical hood).
- 9 Lets dissolve the PFA around  $60^{\circ}\text{C}$  (use the thermometer). Do not let the temperature exceed  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$  (remove from hot plate temporarily if necessary).



- 10 Once dissolved but still foggy,  7.4 with NaOH (it should make the PFA clear).
- 11 Prepare a big filter funnel using Whatman filter paper.
- 12 Filter the 4% PFA into a liter bottle/w lid.
- 13 Store the PFA covered at  4 °C .