

To all users of the Vanderbilt Genome Editing Resource (VGER),

As you know, a work restriction within VU was initiated on March 18th to prevent the further spread of Covid-19. Since research involving animals was to some extent exempted, and since the performance of procedures by staff of the Genome Editing Resource naturally involves physical distancing, we were permitted to follow through on projects that had been initiated by that date.

Many of the previously initiated microinjection and cryopreservation procedures have now been performed, and Covid-19 continues to be a threat. On account of this, we are writing to announce that we will temporarily cease performing microinjection procedures after April 30th until the work restriction within VU has been lifted.

Animals generated from previously performed microinjection experiments will be maintained, and pups containing new CRISPR-induced mutations will continue to be analyzed.

Over the next few days, we will communicate personally with everyone whose projects are affected.

We thank you for your understanding and patience. While we cannot initiate any new projects at this time, we will rapidly resume performing services as soon as the situation permits. In the meantime, we remain available to discuss your ideas and provide letters of support for grant applications.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Magnuson
Jennifer Skelton
Leesa Sampson
Linda Gower