



**INDIANA UNIVERSITY**  
MELVIN AND BREN SIMON  
COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

**Title: Intravenous injections of Test Material**

Date reviewed: 10/19/2020  
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**Equipment:**

**Appropriate sized syringe**

**Appropriate sized needle**

**Procedure:**

1. Warm the animal using a light placed over the cage, or heating pad underneath the cage.
2. When the animal is warm, restrain the animal using an appropriate plastic restraint device for the species you are working with. Check to assure the animal has breathing room.
3. Visualize either the left or right lateral tail vein of the rat or mouse to be used as the injection site.
4. Hold the tail in one hand and the syringe in the other. With the tail held straight and taut, insert the needle with bevel side up.
5. Inject a small amount of the material first to confirm placement in the vein. For rats, the presence of blood in the hub of the needle confirms placement of the needle in the vein, and the material can be administered. For mice, inject a small amount of the material first to confirm placement in the vein. If a subcutaneous lump appears remove the needle and reinsert. After the needle is properly placed, slowly inject the material.
6. Always try to dose as distal (close to the tip) as possible. This allows the length of the tail to be used if problems are encountered or if multiple injections are needed.
7. After the injection, hold the injection site until the bleeding stops.