



### **SOPF (Specific Opportunist Pathogen Free) mice**

Mice in our animal facilities are bred and held under SPF conditions. The meaning of SPF is that there is an exclusion list of microorganisms from which the mice are free from. Yet, the SPF status does not give any indication regarding microorganisms that are not included in the list.

With the advancement of research techniques, we realize that in various cases the microbiological status of the animals is not “clean” enough, and there is a need to eliminate different opportunistic agents. This is true not only for Immunodeficient rodents, such as athymic nude, Nod SCID gamma (NSG), SCID, and Rag 1 mouse strains, but also for transgenic strains with unknown immunity, or any animal subjected to irradiation or immunosuppressive treatments.

The national GEMM center offers a Re-derivation procedure that can “clean” your SPF strains, transform them into SOPF mice quickly and affordably and maintain them in that status in designated areas. We have established an SOPF unit composed of an SOPF breeding room and an SOPF room for experimentation, equipped and prepared for surgical and experimental procedures.

The SOPF units are the highest health status Bio-science units within our national GEMM center. We keep SOPF mice free from any opportunistic or pathogenic microorganism listed by FELASA.

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