

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

SOP#: 1131.1

Date Issued: 5/02

Date Revised: 7/08

Page 1 of 2

TITLE: VetTemp® Infrared Ear Thermometer
SCOPE: Animal Care Personnel
RESPONSIBILITY: Facility Manager, Surgical Core Manager, Professional and Administrative Staff
PURPOSE: To Outline the Proper Procedures for Use and Maintenance of a VetTemp® Infrared Ear Thermometer

I. PURPOSE

1. This procedure outlines the use and maintenance of the VetTemp® Infrared Ear Thermometer used to monitor body temperature in various animal species.

II. RESPONSIBILITY

1. It is the responsibility of the Facility Manager in conjunction with the Surgical Core Manager to ensure that equipment is appropriately cleaned, maintained in good working order, and available to research personnel as requested.
2. It is the responsibility of the veterinary professional, administrative, and managerial staff to ensure that all research and technical staff using this equipment are adequately trained and experienced in monitoring body temperature.

III. EQUIPMENT USE

1. Always wear wrist strap when using the unit to prevent damage by dropping.
2. With the Sensor Arm in the closed position, press and release the Activation Button and observe the following sequence on the LCD screen:
 - a. Test image
 - b. Wait symbol (hand)
 - c. Open symbol (arrow)
3. Fully open and lock the Sensor arm. The word "Ear" with a Probe Cover symbol will appear on the LCD.
4. Install a new probe cover.
5. Firmly grasp the pinna of the animal's ear and gently pull it out and down.

6. Insert the probe deep into the ear canal while directing it towards the angle of the opposite jaw.
7. When in place, press and release the Activation Button and listen for two short beeps.
8. Remove the probe from the ear and read the temperature (temperature will be similar to the rectal temperature but rarely the same).
9. Remove and discard probe cover and close the sensor arm. Unit will power down automatically.

IV. MAINTENANCE

1. Clean unit by wiping with a mild disinfectant and a soft cloth.
2. Periodically inspect all parts for wear or any damage and report to Surgical Core Manager.
3. Ear thermometer units are sealed and must be returned to the manufacturer for battery replacement, repair, and calibration by qualified personnel.

V. TROUBLESHOOTING

1. Refer to the manufacturer's operation and maintenance manual.

VI. REFERENCES

1. Refer to the manufacturer's manual for additional information.

Approved:

Date: