



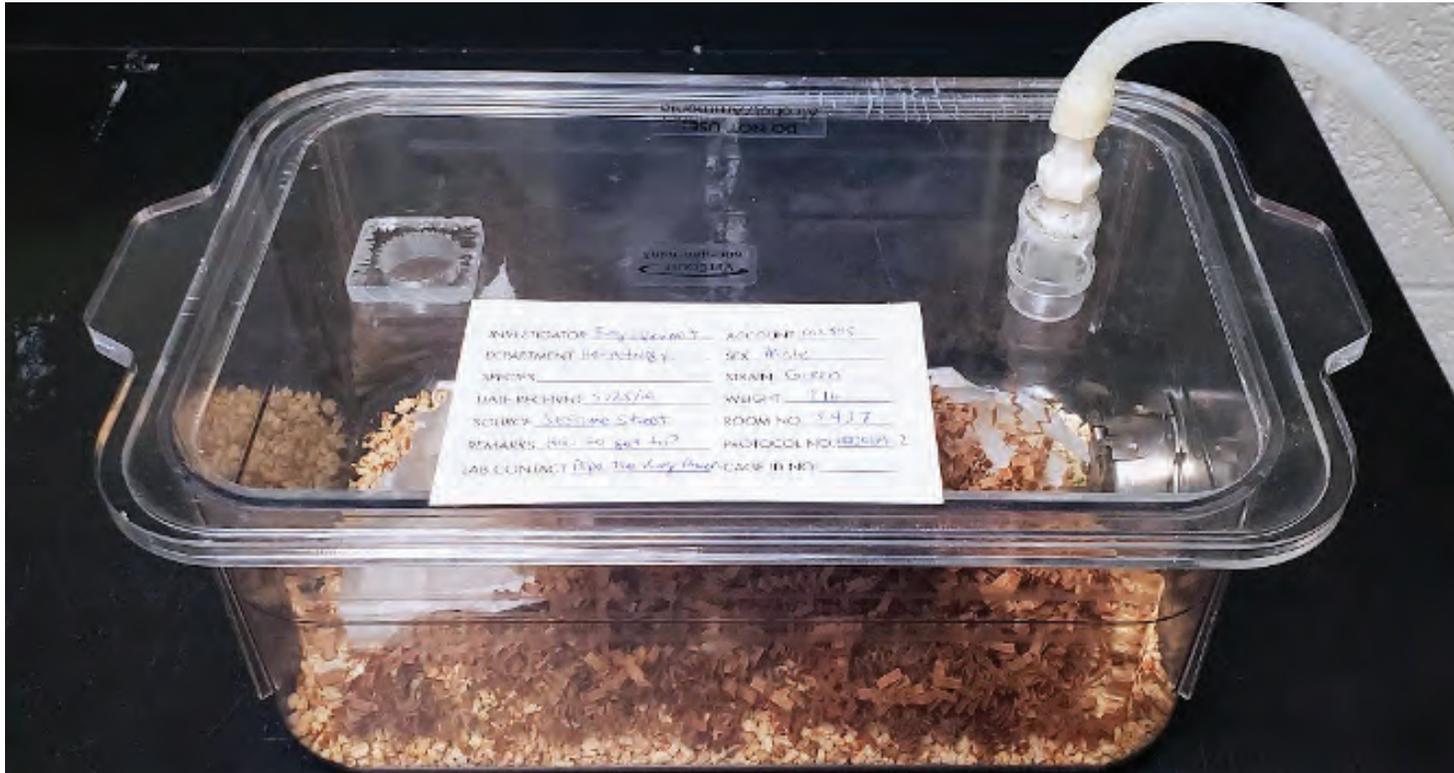
ANIMAL CARE &
USE PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

RODENT EUTHANASIA INSTRUCTIONS

For more detailed step-by-step instructions, please refer to the
Guidelines for Rodent Euthanasia Procedures for Investigative Personnel
(animalcare.umich.edu/rodent-euth)

CAGES MUST BE LABELED WITH:

PI Name
Protocol Number
Shortcode
Lab Contact Information



Until euthanasia is confirmed by secondary, physical means



REMEMBER, IF CONSOLIDATING MICE OR RATS FOR EUTHANASIA:



Do not consolidate rodents
except for mice or rats



Follow standard housing densities when
consolidating rodents (except mice) for euthanasia



No more than 10 mice in a standard mouse (#1) cage
or 25 mice in a large mouse / small rat (#3) cage

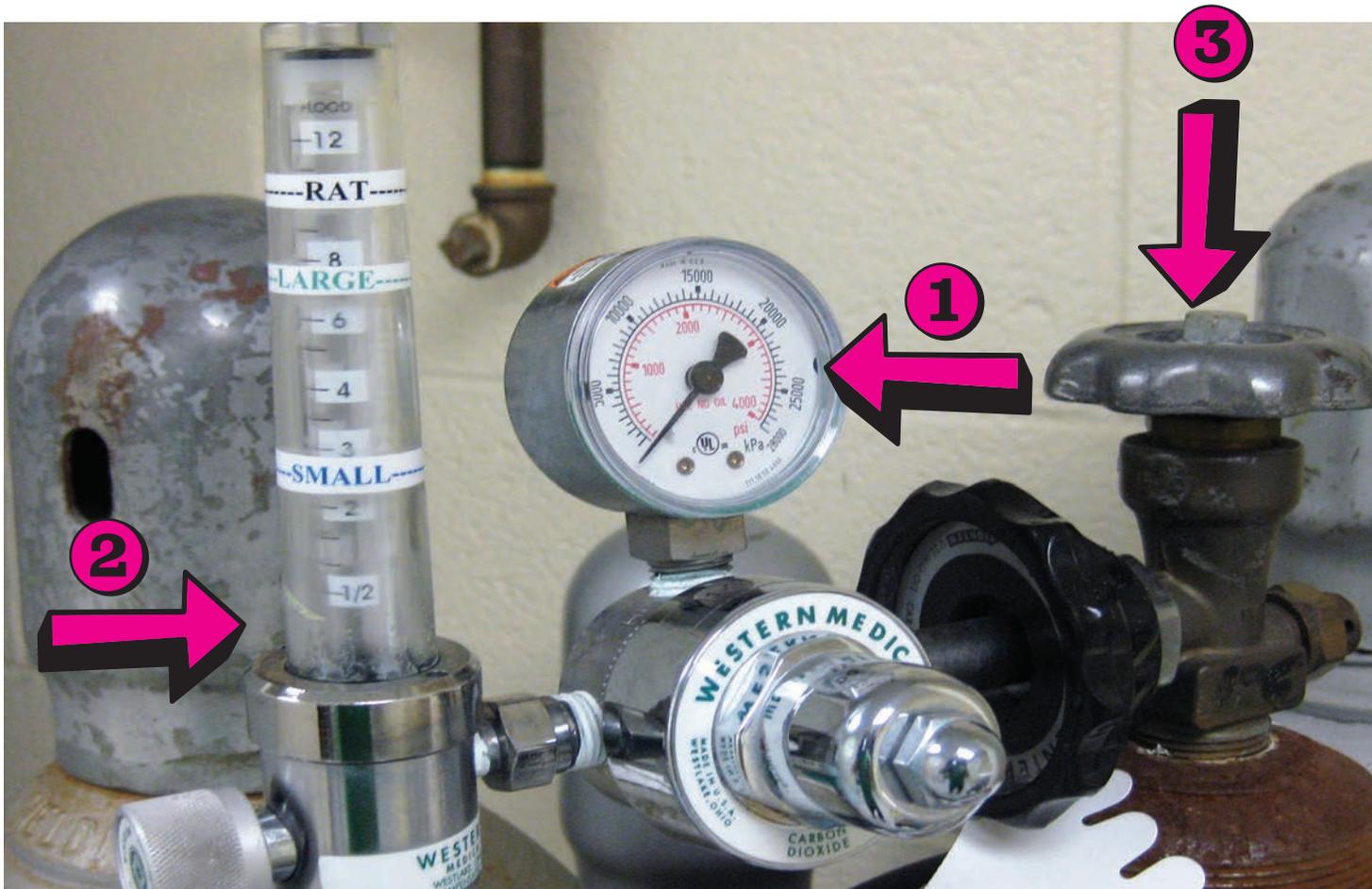


Provide ample space for animals to move and assume
normal postures if using your own euthanizing chamber

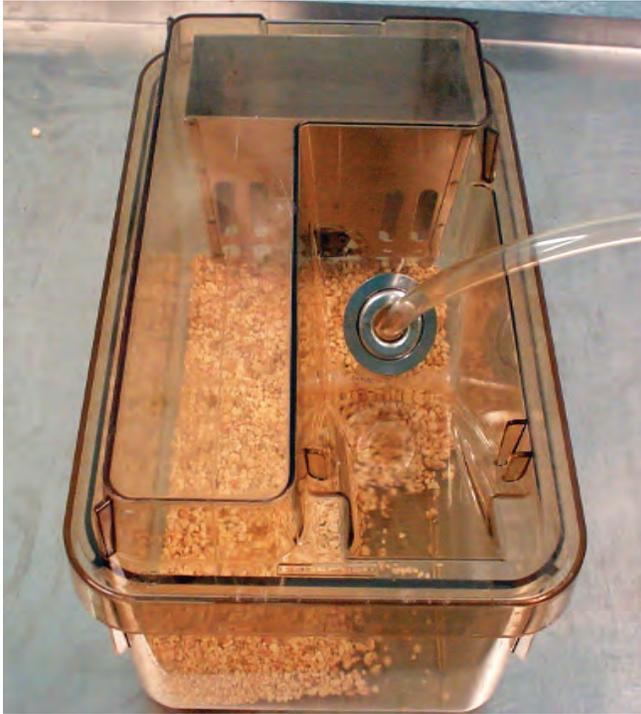


Start the procedure **no more than 10 minutes**
after the animals have been consolidated



STEP
01

- Tank valve (3) should be turned off
- Pressure gauge (1) should read zero
- Flow meter (2) should read zero



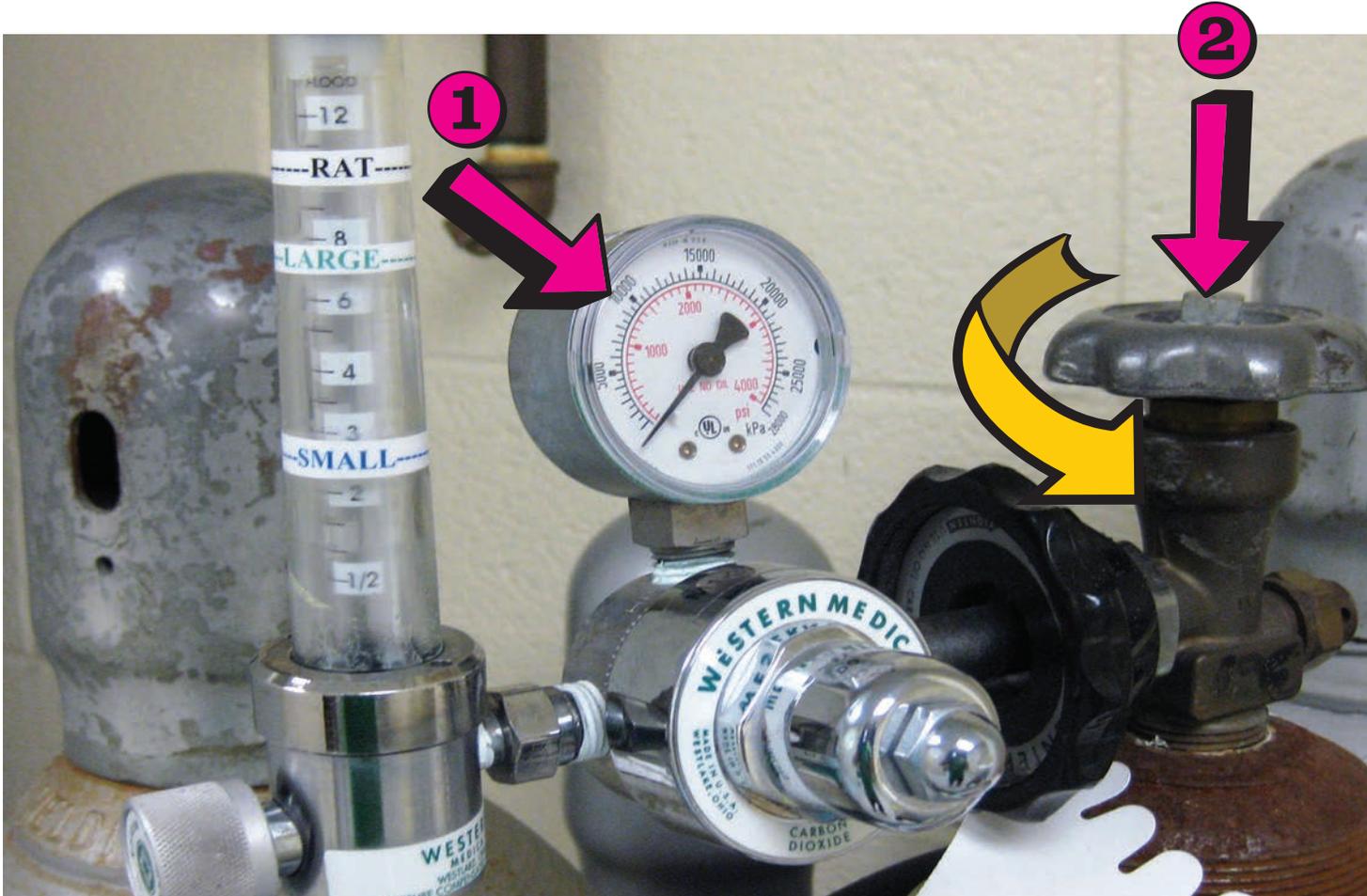
STEP 02

Remove MI-top, feeder, and water

Place euthanasia lid over top of cage

If no euthanasia lid present, CO₂ hose can be inserted directly through water bottle grommet or water valve opening



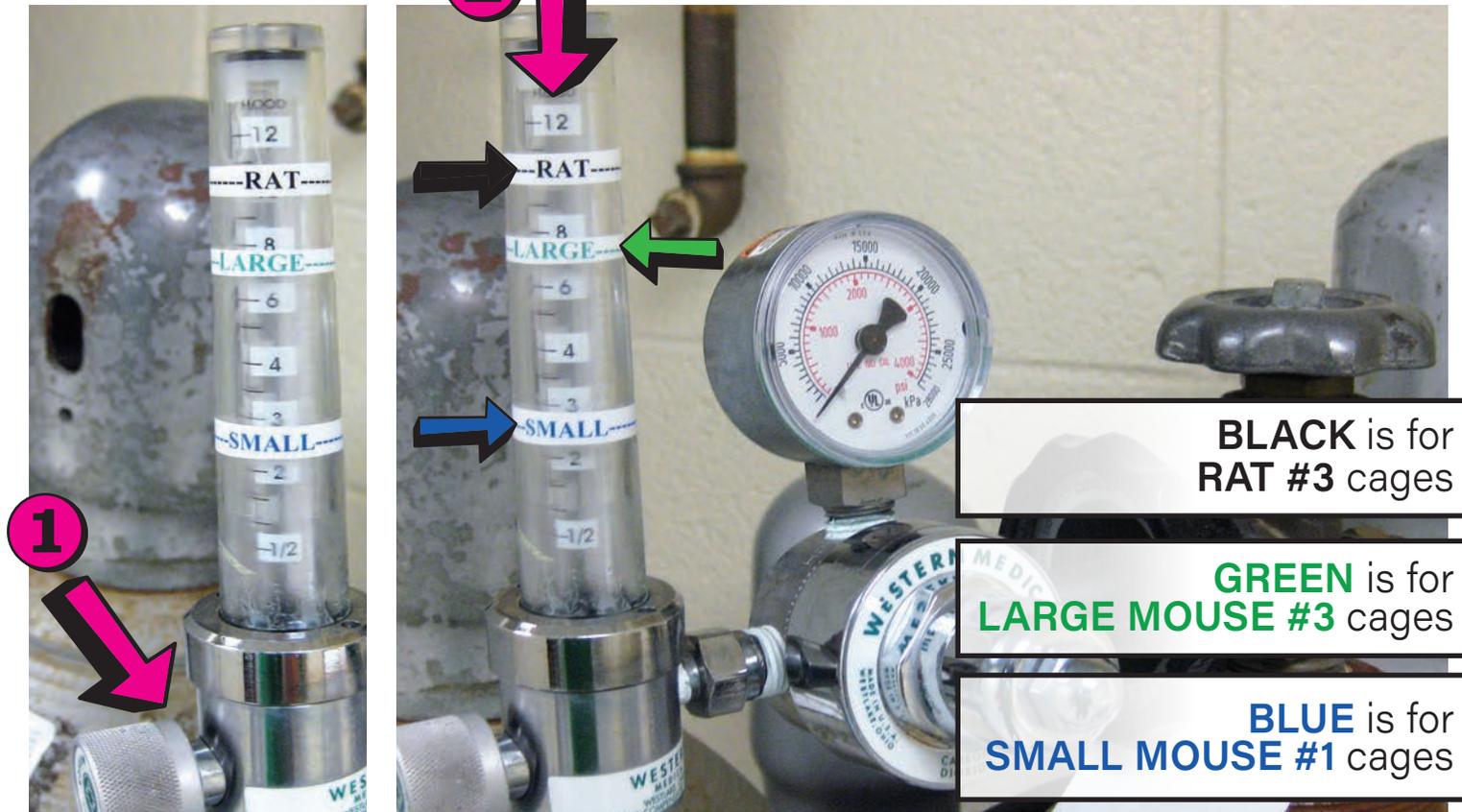


STEP 03

Turn tank valve (2) to the left
(counterclockwise)

Until the needle rises on the
pressure gauge (1)

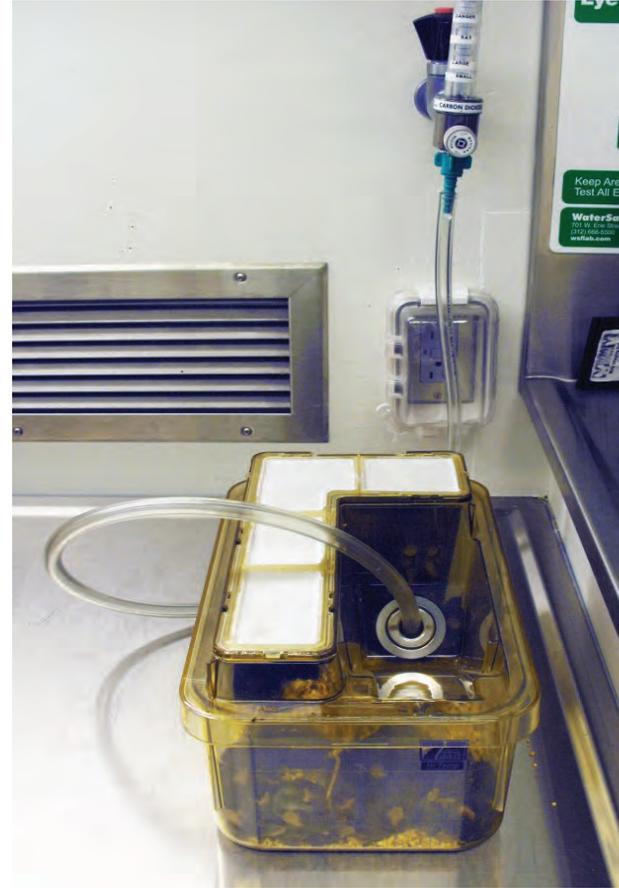
STEP 04



Adjust CO₂ flow into the cage by turning flow meter knob (1)

Until the gauge (floating black ball) (2) reaches the desired color line



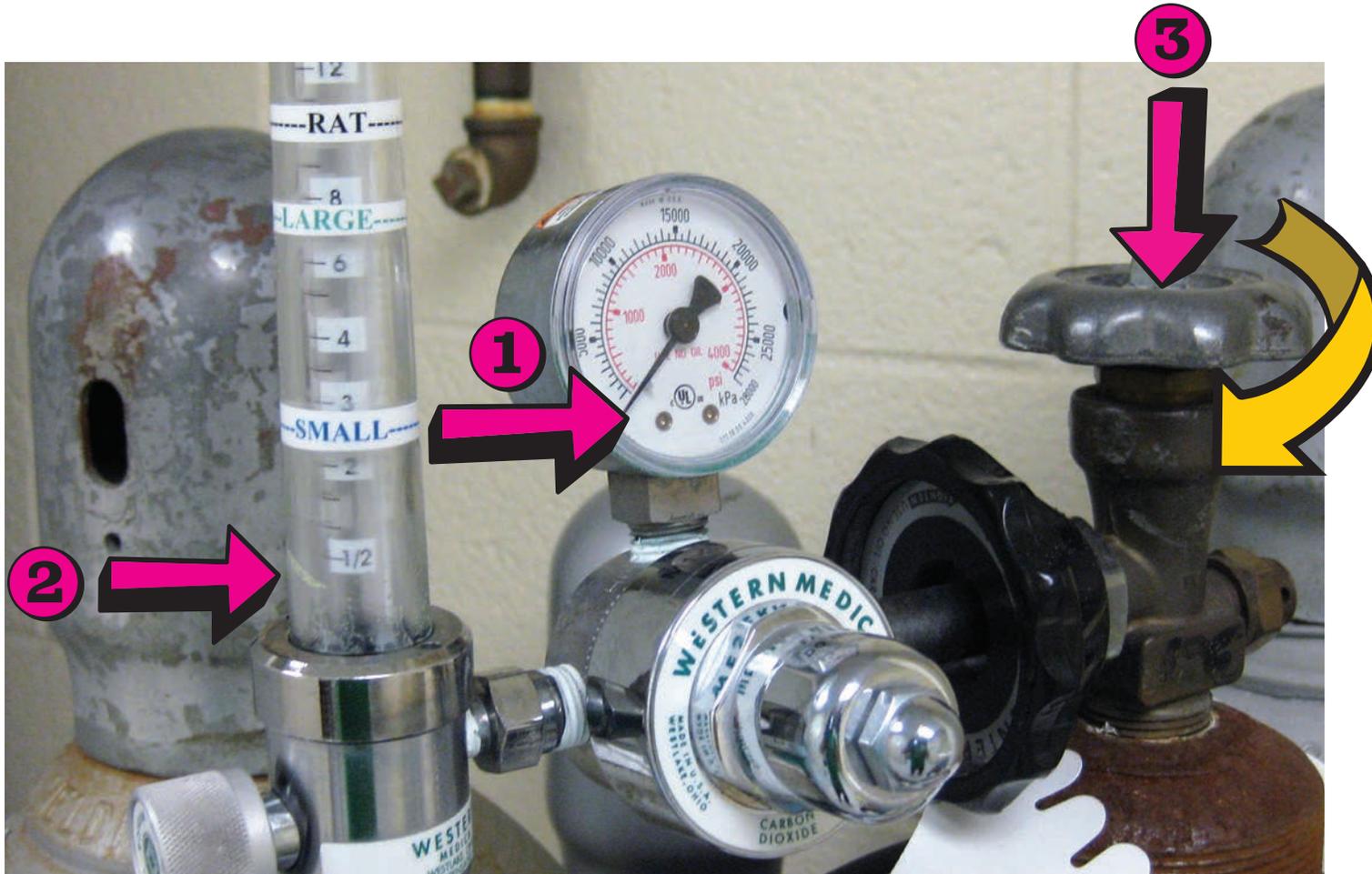


STEP 05

Allow gas to flow until animals are no longer moving or breathing

You **MUST** remain with your animals until death is confirmed by a secondary means



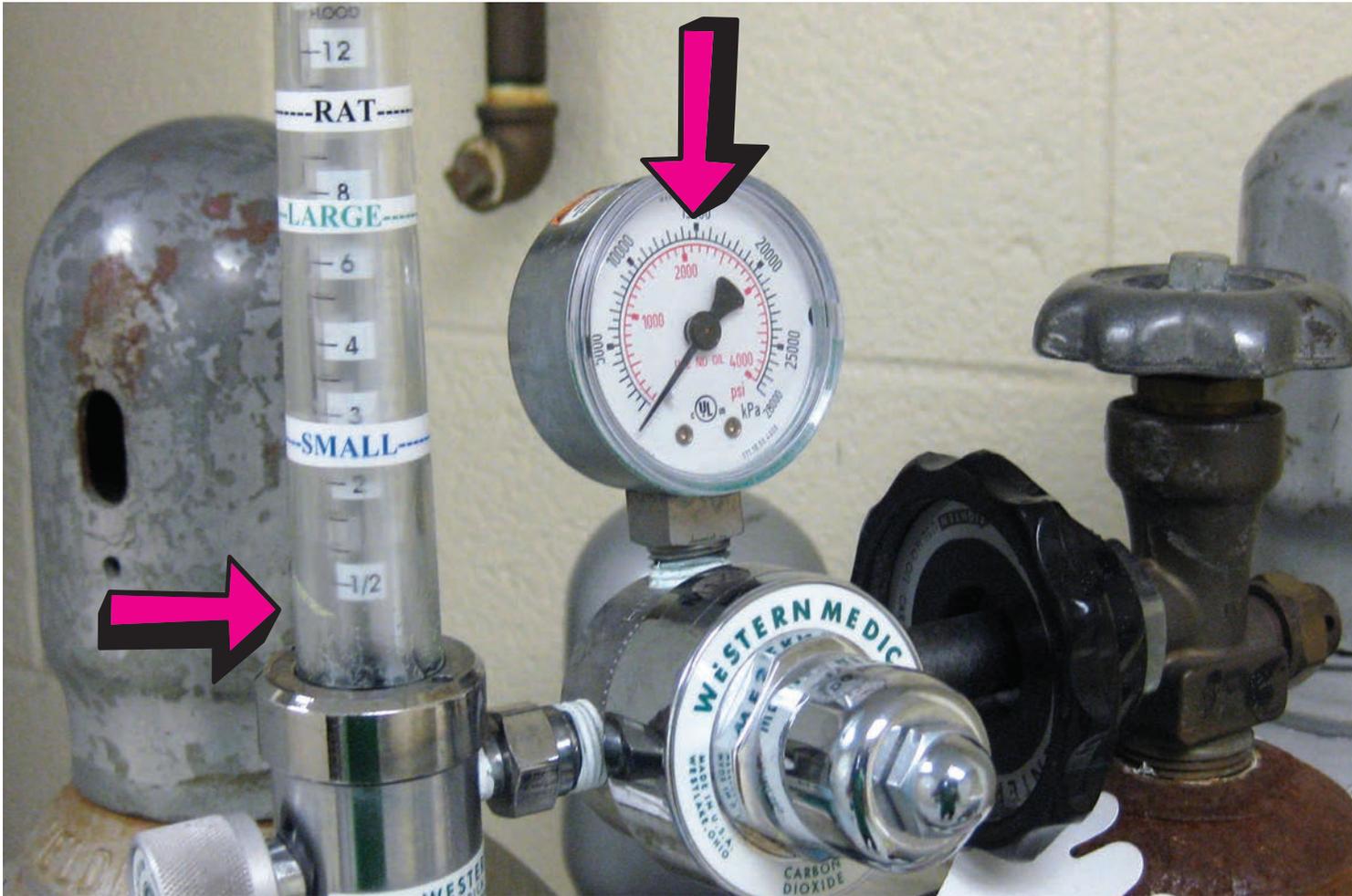


STEP 06

Turn off CO₂ by turning the tank valve (3) clockwise until it is snug

Gauges 1 and 2 should fall back to zero

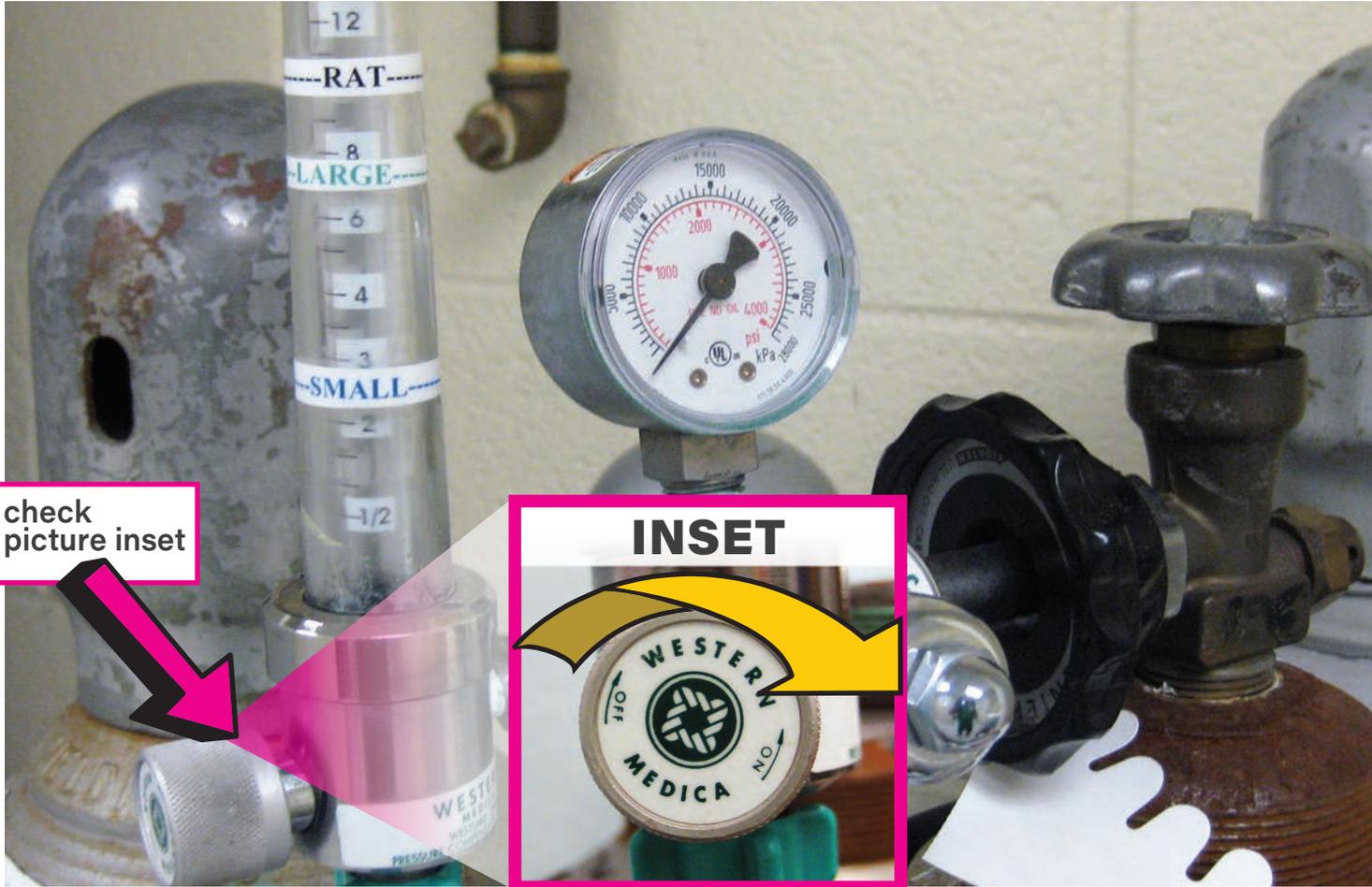
STEP 07



Both gauges should now be at zero with no CO₂ flowing



STEP 08



Turn the CO₂ flow meter valve
until snug in the off position
Do NOT over tighten





Check your protocol for approved secondary euthanasia method

ALWAYS perform a secondary, physical method to ensure euthanasia is effective

STEP 09



STEP
10

or



DATE: _____

PI NAME: _____

INDIVIDUAL: _____

After you have confirmed death
by a secondary, physical means

Put carcass in a glove or opaque bag

Label with PI name, date, and name
of individual conducting euthanasia

STEP 11



Place in appropriate bin
within carcass cooler



QUESTIONS?

Contact your ULAM Faculty Veterinarian and/or
your facility's ULAM Husbandry Supervisor

Bookmark and review the
rodent euthanasia guidelines on Animal Care A-Z
(az.research.umich.edu/node/1016)

We want to acknowledge that the ethical cost of using animals in research may cause some individuals emotional distress, especially if they perform euthanasia as part of their occupational/research duties.

If you think you may be struggling with what is commonly referred to as "compassion fatigue," **there are resources that can help.**

Visit animalcare.umich.edu/cap or email compassionawareness@umich.edu
to learn more about our Compassion Awareness Project.



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