Step By Step Euthanizing Instructions
• If consolidating animals for euthanizing it is important to consider a few things:

  1. If using normal mouse cages the maximum number of mice allowed in the cage is 10 mice per cage for euthanizing purposes only and not housing purposes.
  2. If consolidating rats you cannot exceed the normal housing guidelines. (usually found on or near the laminar flow hood in the animal housing room)
  3. If using your own euthanizing chamber all mice and rats should be able to assume normal posture and movement.
  4. Animals that are consolidated MUST be euthanized immediately! They cannot remain housed this way for more than 10 minutes.
The tank valve (3) should be turned off and the pressure gauge (1) and flow meter (2) should be at zero.
Insert the CO2 hose through the water bottle grommet on the cage lid or through the lixit hole in the back of the cage.
Looking at the gauge (1), turn tank valve (2) to the left or counter clockwise until you see pressure on the gauge.
Adjust CO2 flow into the cage by turning flow meter knob (1) until the gauge (floating black ball) (2) reaches the desired color line.

- Green is for LARGE boxes
- Blue is for SMALL boxes
- Black is for RAT boxes
Allow gas to run until animals are no longer moving or breathing. Remain with the animals during the entire euthanasia procedure.
Turn off CO2 by turning the tank valve (3) clockwise until it is snug. Note that the gauges (1 and 2) are falling back to zero.
Both gauges should now be at zero and there should be no more CO2 flowing.
Turn the CO2 flow meter valve until snug in the off position. Do not over tighten.
After the animals are euthanized you must ensure death by performing a pneumothorax or other method as defined in your protocol.
After you have ensured the death of your mice, you must place them inside a glove or opaque bag into the refrigerator.