



Allergen in Air Sampling for Laboratory Animals



To monitor the effectiveness of laboratory animal allergen control measures, or to determine occupational exposure of lab workers, EMSL offers analysis of air for Animal Allergen exposure. It is estimated that up to 20% of people working with laboratory animals experience allergic symptoms, and about 10% will develop serious asthma symptoms.

Sampling Procedure:

1. Utilizing a low-volume sampling pump, sample the work environment with a 37-mm cassette with either a 1.0 micron glass fiber filter or a 0.8 micron MCE filter.
2. Collection time should be 1.5-2.5 liters per minute and the sampling time should be four (4) to eight (8) hours. (Note time in minutes for chain of custody)
3. Label each sample cassette with location name and date/time sampled.
4. Utilize an [EMSL Microbiology Chain of Custody Form](#), and complete with your requested Billing and Reporting Information. For each sample collected, include the sample number, location, matrix (Air), Test Code (see below), Total Volume collected in minutes (ie. 1.8LPM x 240 minutes = 432 total sample volume), and Date/Time collected. Sign, and submit to EMSL Analytical, Inc.- Cinnaminson, NJ location.



EMS 37mm 3-piece
0.8um MCE Cassette
#8703266 (Pack of 50)
#8715200 (Individual)



Buck Libra Plus Pump
0.8-5LPM with Rotometer
(1 Day Rental)
#87RD019

Exposure Guidelines:

There are no established OSHA or other regulatory agency occupational exposure limits (OELs) for animal allergens. However, most industrial hygienists in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries seek results less than 5 nanograms of allergen per cubic meter of air (<5ng/m³).

Allergen Analyses Available	
Test Code	Description
M038 Mouse	Mouse (Mus m 1)
M039 Rat	Rat (Rat n 1)
M254 IA Group	Rat and Mouse

Reference:

Glueck, J., Huneke, R., Perez, H., Burstyn, I. (2012) Exposure of Laboratory Animal Care Workers to Airborne Mouse and Rat Allergens, *Journal of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science*, Volume 51, Number 5, September 2012, pp. 554-560(7)