

## CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE XIC-3 ISOLATION CHAMBER.

Care should be taken when handling the XIC-3 Animal Isolation Chamber. The anti-reflective window is a specially-treated cell cast acrylic with optimum light transmission and anti-reflective properties. The anti-reflective window has been treated to reduce scratches and smudges however it must be cleaned and handled properly to maintain these optical characteristics.

The XIC-3 Animal Isolation Chamber should only be handled with powder-free gloves.

The window **MUST BE** carefully removed from the XIC-3 Isolation Chamber when it is being cleaned. The XIC-3 chamber can be decontaminated/cleaned by using either a 5% Bleach solution or by autoclaving.

5% Bleach should be used for routine cleaning if the chamber has been used to image pathogen free mice, however, autoclaving **MUST BE** used if the mice being imaged have been challenged with a biohazard i.e. virus or bacteria, or are known to carry a rodent pathogen.

### CLEANING PROTOCOL FOR THE XIC-3 ANIMAL ISOLATION CHAMBER:

1. Prepare a 5% Bleach solution in distilled water.
2. Carefully remove the window from the chamber by loosening the four screws holding it to the lid of the isolation chamber.
3. Use a Kimtech PURE brand W5 lint free wipe when handling the window.

**NOTE:** The surface of the window of the XIC-3 chamber is coated with a hard coating to help prevent scratches and smudges. This coating is only on one side of the window, to maximize light transmission the inner side of the window does not have the coating therefore care should be taken when removing the window. It is important to avoid touching this surface.

4. The removed window should only be cleaned with **optical lens solution and Kimtech PURE brand W5 lint free wipes. NEVER** use paper towel or commercially available window cleaner to clean the window.
5. Remove the tubing and the gas port located on the left side of the isolation chamber using the spanner tool. Turning the spanner to the left will loosen the connection.
6. Remove the access port and its O-ring seal which are located on the right of the chamber.
7. Remove the large red silicon seal from the top of the chamber.
8. Submerge the removed parts and the windowless chamber with lid in 5% bleach for 10 minutes.
9. Rinse off the bleach solution with distilled water.
10. Wipe off the excess water and allow the parts to dry before re-assembling the chamber. Make sure all the seals are properly seated.

**If autoclaving is the required method of decontamination ONLY the metal windowless chamber can be autoclaved as the other parts are plastic and would melt in the autoclave.** The plastic parts should be decontaminated as detailed above.