Wistar Furth Rats

Nomenclature
WF/IcoCrl (inbred)

Strain origin
Furth developed this strain at Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, NY, USA in 1945 starting from a commercial colony of Wistar rats. Acquired by Charles River Laboratories from Microbiological Associates, Bethesda, Maryland, USA. Introduced to Charles River Laboratories France in 1970.

Appearance
Albino

Major histocompatibility complex
RT1^u

Strain characteristics
Lifespan and spontaneous disease
- Mean life span 21 months in females and 23 months in males.
- Carcinoma of the colon found in males and females
- In females tumours include 27% pituitary, 21% mammary, 3% adrenal, 9% leukaemia (generalised), 7% lymphoma (malignant), 3% lipomas and 4% unclassified
- Leukaemia 15-22% characterised by an unusual type of mononuclear cell containing reddish granules
- Incidence of spontaneous pituitary tumours 38% in rats older than 10 months of age, increasing to a maximum of 69% at 28-32 months of age. Higher incidence in females (71%) than in males (35%)
- WF rats develop retinal dystrophy from about 3-months of age. By about 7 months all rats are affected
- Have an hereditary macrothrombocytopenia, with approximately one third of the normal number of platelets, which are larger than normal. The condition appears to be inherited as a simple recessive.

Research applications
Model for general use including
- Oncology: Good model of human prolactinoma and mammary carcinoma.
- Parasitology: Privileged host for the kidney fluke
- Inflammation
- Genetic disease: Animal model of hereditary macrothrombocytopenia

For more information contact us at info@eu.crl.com
Wistar Furth Rats

Growth Curve

Breeding system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mating system</th>
<th>Pair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Litter size at birth</td>
<td>5 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gestation period</td>
<td>22 - 23 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weaning age</td>
<td>22 - 25 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watering system</td>
<td>Water bottles with filtration (0.1 µm), chlorination and UV treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedding</td>
<td>Sawdust bedding, autoclaved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diet</td>
<td>Rodent VRF1, autoclaved, <em>ad libitum</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room temperature</td>
<td>21 ± 1 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light cycle</td>
<td>12 – 12 (6am – 6pm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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