Purpose
The purpose of this policy is to permit ARF personnel to readily identify animals that are newly weaned.

Background
To assist the ARF personnel in identifying newly weaned animals in order to permit careful monitoring of the animals. This will reduce the likelihood of the animals developing severe health issues. This policy is part of an ongoing effort to reduce the number of occurrences where animals are unable to access food and/or water.

Policy
In rooms where breeding and weaning occur, newly weaned animals are to be identified by:

- Immediately upon weaning, an index card stating “NEWLY WEANED” is placed in the cage card holder in front of the cage card.
- ARF personnel will carefully examine these cages the next time rounds are performed in the room to ensure all animals in the cage are capable of accessing food and water.
- In instances where there is a concern regarding the ability of the animals to access food and/or water, ARF personnel will resolve the situation. Common solutions may include adding food to the cage, exchanging/refilling the water bottle, adding transgel to the cage, and/or placing moist food in the bottom of the cage.
- The ‘NEWLY WEANED’ card will remain on the cage until animals are accessing food and water appropriately. ARF personnel will determine when the card is removed.
- Upon verifying the animals have access to food and water the card will be removed.