



CITA
Curvet Imitation Training Aid
(Instructions and appropriate usage)



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Curvet Imitation Training Aid

This model is intended for use to promote humane and ethical methods of veterinary and scientific procedures including injections and blood sampling. This model is not a toy and therefore all reasonable precautions must be made to ensure the model is not damaged and therefore invalidating the terms and conditions of sale.

To ensure a long and lasting training model treat as if it were a live animal: therefore the following advice is given:

Skin:

The skin, particularly along the spine, flanks and abdomen, have been designed for subcutaneous injections using appropriately sized needle, ideally 26g in size. As for a live animal, use a new needle for every injection as a blunt one will inevitably damage the skin.

Note: DO NOT inject actual substances into or through the skin, only use air.

Head & Spine:

The head rotates forward, backward and side to side. For oral administration the head should be straightened and tilted backwards so that the nose is in a vertical position, in line with the spine. Introduce the catheter into the mouth over the tongue and into the oesophagus. If the head is angled incorrectly the catheter will not pass into the oesophagus. The catheter should NOT be forced into the oesophagus or this will cause damage to the model.

The head can be moved in any direction; however, it should be done gently and with care. Heavy handedness will greatly enhance the chance of damage and malfunction. Likewise, the spine has been designed to have limited movement and also requires a gentle approach.

Note: DO NOT use liquids, only air. This method is to gain manual skill and competence for oral administration.



Hind Legs:

The hind legs are attached to a pelvis enabling the legs to move in a limited direction for example: to pull the leg straight or to move them closer to the body. When moving the legs hold firmly at the point where the foot enters into the leg at the junction between the plastic foot and silicon body.

Note: DO NOT hold the foot near the toes or ankle and only pull and push gently.

Anus:

The anus orifice is deliberately limited in depth at approximately 5mm; this is to ensure the thermometer or rectal probe is not inserted too far causing discomfort to the animal.

Note: DO NOT force the rectal probe into the anus causing damage to the model

Removable Tail:

The realistic tail has two functions, firstly the ability to inject substances into the lateral tail veins and secondly, to be connected to an artificial blood supply for blood withdrawal. In both circumstances it is advised to remove the tail from the body before carrying out either of these procedures.

Tail Removal: To remove the tail from the body, hold the rat with the head facing towards you and the tail facing away from you. On the base of the spine just above where the tail enters the body, gently press the hidden release mechanism while holding the base of the tail between your fingers and gently pulling the tail away from the body.

Note: DO NOT pull the tail without first releasing the holding mechanism, and DO NOT hold the tail by the tip, by doing so will damage the tail and invalidate the warranty.

Tail Replacement: A disengaged tail is easily re-attached to the rat in the following way: hold the tail at the base and insert the connector into the rat body; a click will be heard if connected correctly.

Tail veins: All tails have two veins; one located on each side of the tail and descends approximately half way down its length. The veins are clearly visible under the skin to make their presence obvious.



Intravenous Administration: This procedure may be carried out in two ways: firstly, if using the tail without any fluid e.g. to experience the correct methodology and to experience the “feel” of a needle entering the tail, then air may be injected directly into the vein and the tail may remain in place i.e. still attached to the rat.

Secondly, if fluid is used to mimic a real intravenous injection, the tail should be attached to the pre-filled tubing (see “Pre-filling the silicone tubing with artificial blood”) in the same way as if it is attached to the rat body i.e. push the connector at the base of the tail into the blood holding vessel until a click is heard. Inject the red fluid (supplied) using the appropriate size needle (maximum 26g) and syringe (2ml) and lay the tail onto an absorbent swab. Before injecting, gently pull back on the syringe plunger and observe the fluid entering the base of the needle. If located in the correct place, the injected fluid will flow into the vein and you will be able to observe the fluid moving up the tubing. If fluid is injected and it is NOT in the vein, the fluid will surround the vein and mimic bruising / haematoma, however, this will reduce the life span of the tail.

Note: Although these tails are self sealing and may be used several times, they do have a limited life span (approximately 100 - injections). Using the correct size needle (26g or less) will enhance their longevity; using a larger needle will damage the tail and veins and will reduce the lifespan or invalidate the warranty.

Blood Withdrawal: Withdrawing blood (artificial blood) will require the tail to be independent of the body and attached to a suitable vessel which is supplied. The tail should be attached to the pre-filled tubing (see “Pre-filling the silicone tubing with artificial blood”) in the same way as if it is attached to the rat body i.e. push the connector at the base of the tail into the blood holding vessel until a click is heard. A suitable size needle (26g) and syringe / butterfly tubing should be used. Insert the needle and gently take the sample. If located correctly, fluid will enter the syringe and the fluid may be observed leaving the pre-filled tubing.

Note: Although these tails are self sealing and may be used several times, they do have a limited life span (approximately 100 samples). Using the correct size needle (26g or less) will enhance their longevity; using a larger needle will damage the tail and veins and will reduce the lifespan or invalidate the warranty.



Pre-filling the silicone tubing with artificial blood:

The empty flexible tubing has to be pre-loaded with artificial blood (supplied) before sampling can commence. To do this the following steps should be taken:

1. Lay the tubing on a suitable absorbent surface.
2. Remove the black end cap to allow the air to escape when filling [Fig 1].



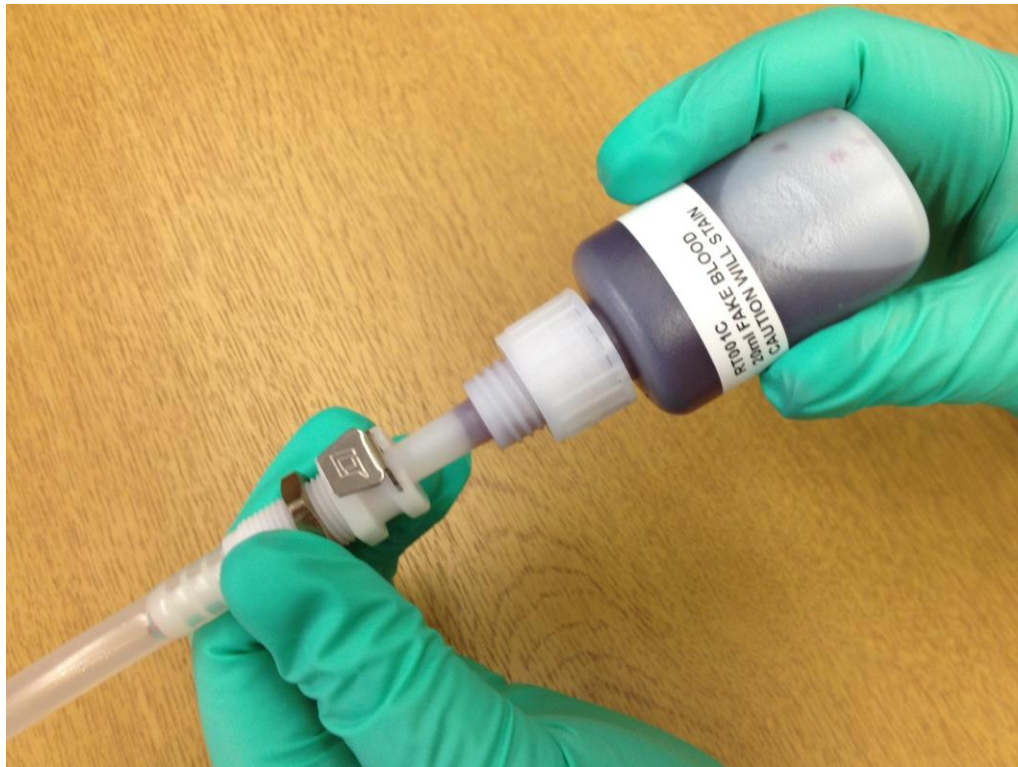
[Fig 1]

3. Ensure the rat tail IS NOT attached to the coupling (Fig 1).
4. The blood bottle has two removable parts, the top and neck; hold the neck securely and remove the top thus exposing the exit (Fig 2).



[Fig 2]

5. Hold the coupling between your fingers and insert the end of the blood bottle and push gently, this will open up the release mechanism; this is where the tail will eventually sit (Fig 3).



[Fig 3]

6. Gently squeeze the bottle until the blood can be seen approximately half way up the tubing (Fig 4).



[Fig 4]

7. Remove the blood bottle, the release mechanism will automatically close and seal.
8. Replace the black end cap at the opposite end
9. Replace the cap on the blood bottle to prevent spillages
10. Attach the rat tail to the coupling and the equipment is ready to use (Fig 5).



[Fig 5]

Please note: It is important to leave some air in the top of the tubing to prevent a vacuum being created as this will prevent a blood sample from being taken.

The tail is now ready to be used for either blood sampling or fluid administration. If an air bubble is present within the artificial blood, hold the tubing vertically and gently flick the tubing with your fingers until the air reaches the top of the fluid.

Product Queries/Reordering:-

You will notice your CITA has an Ear Tag already installed. Please note that this number is unique to your product, so please do not remove!

Please contact:



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Re-order details:-

RT001	CurVet (TM) CITA Rat Training Aid
RT001A	CurVet (TM) CITA Rat Tail Filler Kit
RT001B	CurVet (TM) CITA Rat Spare Tail
RT001C	Replacement Blood – 20ml



CurVet

