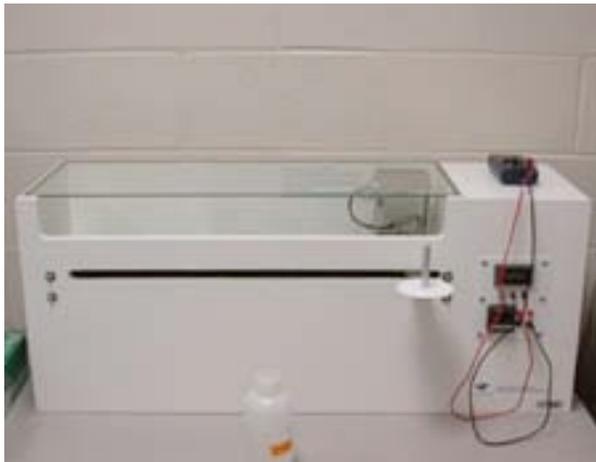


Equipment



Thermal Analgesiometer

Used in assays of:

Cutaneous Sensitivity to Thermal Stimulation

Tail Flick Test

Thermal Hyperalgesia

Thermal Analgesia

The RBF has two thermal analgesimeters (a.k.a. "Hargreaves boxes" or "hot boxes"), one for rats and one for mice. This apparatus uses a focused projection bulb to measure sensory responsiveness to warming of the skin surface. A timer automatically actuates when the light source is initiated and paw withdrawal is detected by an array of photodiode motion sensors that stops the timer and terminates the stimulus. The ideal location for thermal testing of a subject's skin is one that is naturally resting on and in full contact with the glass (i.e., the plantar surface of the paw). However, body parts close to, but not touching the glass, have been successfully tested as well.