Open formula purified diets for lab animals



Test Compounds



Simple, Safe Dosing

Research Diets, Inc. will incorporate your compounds into any experimental diet. Feeding test compounds eliminates dosing related stress to the animal, eliminates vehicle effects, and saves time and labor. Consult with one of our scientists on the formula, determine the dosage required and the diet will be produced and shipped in 5 to 7 business days.

Repeat Formula and Dose Response

Consistent OpenSource Diet[®] formulation provides a clean, repeatable control diet for your research. Precise, graded addition of test compounds to your specified control diet allows evaluation of dose response effects in your animal model. We can blend your compound homogeneously into any diet, typically to ppm and even as low as parts per billion.

Pelleted Micro Batches

Research Diets will incorporate test compounds into pelleted micro batches as small as 200 grams for those compounds that are in limited supply. Our production facility is well equipped to pellet small batches at precise doses.



We start by thoroughly mixing the compound in a small bowl with a premix and dye.





Then we transfer the contents of the small bowl into a larger bowl.

The dye assures that the compound is homogeneously mixed and ready for pelleting.

Examples of Compounds Added

- Chemotherapeutics
- COX-2 Inhibitors
- Antioxidants
- Nutraceuticals
- Statins
- Insulin sensitizers
- NSAIDS

A Dose Response Study



How to Calculate the Diet Dose of your Compound

STEP 1: VARIABLES NEEDED

Variables		Units
Single Daily Dose	SD =	mg Cmpd/kg BW/day
Body Weight	BW =	gm BW/animal
Daily Food Intake	FI =	gm Diet/day
Diet Dose	DD=	mg Cmpd/kg Diet

STEP 2: PLUG FIGURES INTO FORMULA

Formula: DD= (SD X BW)/FI

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Contact our Resource Center for valuable insight from more than 25 years of product experience incorporating test compounds into diet. Let us formulate the diets to meet your specific study needs.

Custom OpenSource Diets

Research Diets, Inc has pioneered the incorporation of test compounds into pelleted purified diets. Our scientists specialize in providing custom purified OpenSource diets. By carefully designing the diet formula to fit your protocol, you have complete control over small or large changes in diet composition. Plus you are able to report what your animals were fed, repeat the formula and revise diet composition as necessary.

Value Added Resource

The value of our products is in the scientific support we provide. Our Resource Center is staffed with Masters and Ph.D. level scientists with access to over 14,000 original formulas and a database of more than 3,800 journal articles. We welcome the opportunity to talk science with researchers throughout the world as we maintain our leadership role as the knowledge base for OpenSource Diet formulation.

BioDAQ Episodic Intake Monitor

BioDAQ E2 Episodic monitoring system measures the ad libitum food and water intake behavior of singly housed lab rats and mice at very high resolution in their home cage. Computer controlled electronics record food and water intake episodically by measuring the moment to-moment, undisturbed intake behavior of the animals being studied. The animal's behavior defines the variable period for these intake measurements through their native behavior.





Pica Behavior

Visceral illness is an undesirable side effect of some pharmaceutical treatments and experimental paradigms, and confounds the study of appetite regulation. By definition, visceral illness describes a range of nausea and concomitant anorexia caused by many factors, including ingestion of toxins, infections, presence of cancer, etc. Consumption of non-nutritive substances (pica behavior) such as kaolin, has been documented to reflect feelings of visceral illness in rats and mice.



Kaolin Use in Research

- Pre-clinical Drug Discovery
- Obesity and diabetes
- Oncology
- Radiation Therapy
- Chemotherapeutics
- Nausea research
- Anti-emetics
- Cachexia

Cost Effective Indicator

Research Diets, Inc. offers, a non-nutritive kaolin pellet for use in your research. It is a cost effective, easy to use, early indicator of visceral illness in your experimental animals. Early identification of this adverse experience profile of a compound saves money and streamlines the rational drug design process. Researchers studying metabolic disorders rely on food intake measures as a primary endpoint in evaluating the efficacy of experimental treatments. However, anorectic effects can reflect primary efficacy or secondary effects due to visceral illness. Consumption of kaolin offers early insight into the mechanisms operating in your in vivo studies.

