

Important Questions You Need to Ask

If someone is telling you that ACL is bad for your research, be sure to ask him or her the following fair questions:

Q. How do you explain the fact that ACL systems have been on the market for over 20 years and are used at some of the world's most prestigious research institutions?

Q. If you consider all of the IVC manufacturers who employ the ACL method, there are at least 50,000 ACL IVC systems in the field, used at research institutions throughout the world, housing over 20,000,000 animals throughout the years. Is it your contention that all of these institutions have been providing poor microenvironments for their animals all of this time?

Q. Do you have any scientific proof that ACL is bad for research?

Q. If yes, then who conducted the study? Were they, or are they currently, customers of yours?

Q. If the scientific proof you're referring to is the Vera Baumans paper entitled "Individually Ventilated Cages: Beneficial for Mice and Men?" that paper also claims that air introduced into the lid of the cage system causes air dead-spots in the front and back of the cage. Do you believe that this is also true? And if it is, wouldn't dead-spots allow for wetter bedding and higher ammonia within the cage?

Q. IVC systems that introduce air into the lid appear to require higher air changes per hour (ACH), and result in higher pressure within the cage than ACL systems. Wouldn't higher ACH and higher pressure potentially make cages more susceptible to leaks? And also potentially require more energy for use?

Q. So that I may speak with them directly, can you provide me with the contact information for ACL users with whom you have spoken, and who have concluded that their ACL systems cause stress to their animals?

Q. Has your company ever had, or applied for, a patent for your own ACL system?