TERMINOLOGY: USE OF THE TERMS  
‘Fetal’, ‘Foetal’, ‘FetUs’ and ‘FOETUS’

Article 4.10.3.

Procedures for micromanipulation

The term “micromanipulated” covers several different procedures and a variety of specialised microsurgical instruments and other equipment may be used. However, from the standpoint of animal health, any cutting, penetrating or breaching of the integrity of the zona pellucida is an action that can alter the health status of an embryo. To maintain health status during and after micromanipulation, the following conditions should apply:

1. Media

Any product of animal origin, including co-culture cells and media constituents, used in the collection or production of oocytes, embryos or other cells, and in their micromanipulation, culture, washing and storage should be free from pathogenic agents (including transmissible spongiform encephalopathy agents, sometimes called prions). All media and solutions should be sterilised by approved methods in accordance with the Manual of the IETS and handled in such a manner as to ensure that sterility is maintained. Antibiotics should be added to all fluids and media as recommended in the Manual of the IETS.

2. Equipment

Equipment (e.g. microsurgical instruments which have direct contact with embryos) should either be of the single-use type (disposed of after each oocytes or embryos batch) or should be effectively sterilised between oocytes or embryos batch in accordance with recommendations in the Manual of the IETS.

3. Nuclei for transplantation (“nuclear transfer”)

a) Where it is intended to transplant nuclei derived from pre-hatching stage (i.e. zona pellucida intact) embryos, the parent embryos from which those nuclei are derived should fulfil the conditions of this chapter. Where nuclei derived from other types of donor cell (e.g. post-hatching stage embryos, embryonic, ~~foetal~~ fetal and adult cells, including spermatozoa or spermatids for ICSI) are to be transplanted, the parent embryo, ~~foetus~~ fetus or animal from which those donor cells originate, and the methods whereby they are derived, including cell culture, should comply with the relevant animal health standards recommended elsewhere in this [*Terrestrial Code*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/index.php?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_code_terrestre) and in the [*Terrestrial Manual*](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/index.php?id=169&L=1&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_manuel_terrestre).

b) Where it is intended to transplant a nucleus into an intact oocyte (e.g. for ICSI), or into an enucleated oocyte (for nuclear transfer), those oocytes should be collected, cultured and manipulated in accordance with the recommendations in this chapter.

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