



-Mouse Morris Watermaze Protocol

- Allow 15-60 minutes for animal room acclimation
- Room lights on
- H₂O: 25° +/- 1°
 - *Bring the water to temperature before every session*
 - *Check the temp before every trial*
- Add white paint to water until opaque on Day 1
 - *Add more paint if necessary as the training days go on*
- Running animals round robin
 - *Example: Trial 1 -> Run animals 1-10 and then begin Trial 2 running animals 1-10 etc.*
- **Visible (Files: Visible Platform D1-D3)**
 - No cues up
 - Days 1-4 (2 sets of 4 trials = 8 trials per day)
 - 15 second on platform after finding it
 - *If mouse didn't reach the platform in 60 seconds, guide it to the platform and let it sit for 15 seconds*
- **Hidden (Files: Hidden Platform D4-D8)**
 - *2 sets of 3 trials = 6 trails per day*
 - *Cues are up: N (star), W (cross), S (circle), E (rectangle)*
 - *Platform: NW*
 - *Starting locations: NE, SW, SE (x2)*
 - **Day 4** – Run Hidden Day 1
 - **Day 5** – Run Hidden Day 2
 - **Day 6** – Run Hidden Day 3
 - **Day 7 + probe**
 - **Probe 1 (File: ProbeTrial)**
 - Run before hidden trials
 - No platform
 - Mice placed in center of the pool and allowed to swim for 60 seconds
 - Rescue in quadrant where the platform should be (NW)



- Run Hidden Day 4
- **Day 8 + probe**
 - Probe 2 (File: ProbeTrial)
 - Run before hidden trials
 - No platform
 - Mice placed in center of the pool and allowed to swim for 60 seconds
 - Rescue in quadrant where the platform should be (NW)
 - Run Hidden Day 5

Written & edited by Mary J. Kando, M.S.
mary.kando@northwestern.edu
Behavioral Phenotyping Core
6/14/19