

other physiological barriers seems warranted, as are investigations of the action of α -naphthylisothiocyanate and related aryl isothiocyanates and thiocyanates on the thyroid gland.

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Department of Pharmacology,
College of Medicine, State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Iowa, U.S.A.
August 11, 1964

BERNARD A. BECKER
GABRIEL L. PLAA

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Measuring the temperature of a mouse

SIR,—It was pointed out by McLaren in 1961 that the body temperatures of mice could be measured successfully in the rectum, if the mouse were placed on a wire grid and held by the tail. This method, when carried out correctly, causes the least possible restraint of the animal as is clear from Fig. 1. It is



difficult to envisage that holding an animal to measure its body temperature by means of an oesophageal thermocouple (Brittain & Spencer 1964) could cause less restraint.

Laboratory Animals Centre,
M.R.C. Laboratories,
Woodmansterne Road,
Carshalton, Surrey.
August 19, 1964

ANNIE M. BROWN

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