DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE

The Division of Comparative Medicine (http://web.mit.edu/comp-med) has three basic missions: education, research, and the provision of comprehensive animal husbandry, clinical, and diagnostic services for all research animals at MIT. The division serves as the centralized animal resource on campus and provides the necessary expertise for investigators conducting biomedical research using animal models.

Division staff members educate the MIT research community in the biology and use of research animals as models for biomedical research. The division provides online training materials for researchers working with animals as well as one-on-one training based on individual requirements. Division members teach graduate-level courses in the Department of Biological Engineering (http://catalog.mit.edu/schools/engineering/biological-engineering) and provide mentorship for Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) (http://catalog.mit.edu/mit/undergraduate-education/academic-research-options/undergraduate-research-opportunities-program) and graduate students.

With an NIH-funded postdoctoral training program for veterinarians specializing in biomedical research, the major long-range goal of the research at the division is to develop animal models or in vitro systems that are pertinent to biomedical research. The division is internationally recognized for characterizing new Helicobacter species and studying the relationship of Helicobacter to human diseases that are prevalent throughout the world.