Retro-orbital Blood Collection in the Mouse

The mouse is anesthetized and the head is restrained. A 44.7 ul glass micro capillary tube or 5 ¾” Pasteur pipette is inserted at a 45 - 90 angle into the medial or lateral corner of the eye. The tube is rotated to puncture the retro-orbital sinus and blood will rise into the tube to the desired amount. If more blood is required, collection is continued using the blood that pools into the conjunctival fornix. The tube is removed and gentle pressure is applied. A small strip of triple antibiotic ophthalmic ointment is applied to the eye.

Under Non-surgical Procedures#2, add: The mouse will be monitored short-term for continued bleeding, long-term for inflammation, hematoma or abscess formation, as well as squinting or corneal opacity.