Injections of Nerve growth Factor into Trachea

Date of Injection _____________________
Type of Injection ______________________
Type of Animals _____________________

1. Anesthetize rat according to the following:
   - **Rat pups**: immerse in ice until reflexes are lost.
   - **Rat adults**: i.p. injection of Sodium Brevital at 50 mg/kg (.2 mls for 200gms)
     Pinch foot with forceps, when non-reactive proceed.
2. Using a scalpel blade make an incision about 1 cm long from throat to sternum.
3. Insert micro-dissecting retractors into incision, pulling flaps outward.
4. Using forceps pick up fatty tissue and snip with micro scissors, using retractors to pull away fat. Continue until trachea is located and exposed.
5. Insert the Micro-Hamilton syringe very gently into the trachea lumen. Do not use a lot of pressure or syringe may go out the back of trachea.
6. Push plunger of micro-syringe to deliver NGF into trachea. Look carefully to insure the tracer is delivered in the lumen of trachea.
7. Remove retractors and replace fat over trachea.
8. Close the incision.
   - **Rat Pups**: apply small piece of surgical tape
   - **Rat Adults**: stitch closed using a 3-0 gut suture.