Restraint
Small rodents: Restrained by hand while in the biosafety cabinet or at a workstation.  
Guinea pigs: Restrained by hand or wrapped in a towel.  
Rabbits: Placed in a commercial rabbit restrainer or restrained by hand.

Note: Instead of physical restraint, animals can be anesthetized as described in the IACUC protocol.

Procedure
1) A plastic blunt-tipped needle* attached to a 1 ml syringe is carefully inserted into the vagina.  
2) Sterile phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) is gently injected into and aspirated from the vagina a total of 5 times.  
   PBS volume:  
   a. Small rodents: 50-100 uL  
   b. Guinea pigs: 100-200 uL  
   c. Rabbits: maximum of 500 uL  
3) The needle is removed, and the animal is returned to its cage.

* Braintree Scientific, Inc: disposable feeding needle, 20g x 1.5 in. (or similar product)