

USDA, Agricultural Research Service, ENVIROTRON,
Hagerman, IdahoDate:03/10/2023

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE Excellent science conducted safely and with compassion.

This location's IACUC of record was reviewed on this date and confirmed to be fulfilling all regulatory responsibilities, as defined below. A checked box indicates the committee's compliance.



IACUC Membership complies with 9 CFR 2.31(a)(b) and 2.33(a)(3).

The committee has at least 3 members appointed by the highest ranking location official, including (1) a nonaffiliated member representing the general public's interests; (2) a veterinarian; and (3) a Chair.

The IACUC conducts animal program reviews and facility inspections at least once every 6 months in accordance with 9 CFR 2.31(c)(1-3).

The review is conducted by at least 2 IACUC members, and documented as a report that (1) includes minority views; (2) identifies departures from regulations or standards, with reasons for departures; (3) distinguishes significant from minor deficiencies; (4) provides reasonable and specific plans/dates/schedules for corrections of deficiencies; (5) has been reviewed and signed by a majority of IACUC members; and (6) is submitted to the Institutional Official.

The IACUC reviews proposed research activities involving animals in accordance with 9 CFR 2.31(c), 2.31(d)(1-5), and 2.31(e).

- Every member is provided with a complete list of activities under review in advance.
- Any member can request for a specific proposal to be reviewed by the full committee.
- Approval is required before research can be initiated, and must be re-reviewed at least annually as long as the research is in progress.
- Members with potential conflicts are recused and do not vote during the review and approval process.

Approved protocols include assurances and/or statements, as required by 9 CFR 2.31(d)(1) and 2.31(e).

- Proposed procedures do not unnecessarily duplicate previous experiments.
- A sound rationale for the use of live animals, and for the species and number of animals requested has been provided.
- A complete description of how animals will be used in experiments is provided.
- Pain and distress are avoided or minimized, and procedures used to minimize pain and discomfort are completely described.
- Methods of euthanasia are described and consistent with the AVMA Guidelines.
- Proposed animal activities with the potential to cause pain/distress include: (1) the Attending Veterinarian's input relative to pain management; (2) a description of drugs or methods used to mitigate anticipated pain/distress; and (3) results of a search for alternatives to painful procedures that includes information sources consulted and search methods, terms, etc. used. Paralytic agents cannot be used without anesthesia.
- Painful procedures that cannot be alleviated must be scientifically justified, and continued only for the minimum time necessary.
- Survival surgeries are conducted aseptically and in dedicated facilities.
- Pre- and post-operative care is fully described.
- No animal is used in multiple major survival surgeries, unless: (1) written scientific justification has been provided; (2) the added surgeries are required veterinary procedures or needed to protect the animal's health; or (3) other special circumstances apply and have been approved by the APHIS Administrator.



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The IACUC reviews significant changes to approved protocols in accordance with 9 CFR 2.31(c)(7), 2.31(d)(8), and 2.31(e).



If the need arises, the IACUC is authorized to suspend research by a majority vote in accordance with 9 CFR 2.31(c)(8), 2.31(d)(6), 2.32(d)(7).

The IACUC has procedures to review and investigate animal care concerns from the public or facility personnel in accordance with 9 CFR 2.31(c)(4).

The IACUC adheres to minimum recordkeeping requirements, as specified in 9 CFR 2.35.

- Minutes of IACUC meetings are prepared, and include a record of members in attendance.
- Records of approved activities and/or significant changes to approved activities involving animals are kept.
- Semi-annual program review and facility inspection reports, with recommendations and minority • viewpoints, are prepared and maintained.
- Program records are maintained for a minimum of 3 years, and records pertaining to animal usage activities are maintained for a minimum of 3 years after the activity has concluded.
- When needed, use of an externally administered IACUC is clearly documented in a written agreement. •

There is an Attending Veterinarian (AV), who ensures that an adequate program of veterinary care has been established in accordance with 9 CFR 2.33.

- The AV has direct or delegated authority to oversee all aspects of animal care and use, and there are provisions for backup care when needed.
- There is a written Program of Veterinary Care that includes regularly scheduled visits when veterinary • care is provided by a part-time consultant.
- Animals are observed daily, unless less frequent observation is specifically approved by the IACUC.
- Direct and frequent communication takes place between investigators and animal care staff with the AV, or appropriate delegate, to ensure accurate information on animal health, behavior, and well-being is provided in a timely manner.
- *The AV has appropriate training in the species maintained at the facility.*
- The AV maintains regular communication with the IACUC, and provides guidance to investigators and other personnel regarding husbandry, handling, immobilization, sedation, analgesia, anesthesia, and euthanasia.
- The AV provides oversight for surgery and peri-operative care of animals that is consistent with current veterinary medical and nursing procedures.
- The AV provides oversight of the assessment, treatment plan, and medical recordkeeping requirements for animals requiring veterinary care.

All personnel involved in animal activities are adequately trained and qualified to perform their respective duties in accordance with 9 CFR 2.32.

At minimum, training must be provided in: (1) humane methods of animal maintenance and experimentation; (2) the concept, availability, and use of research or testing methods that minimize pain/distress or limit the use of animals (the three R's); (3) proper administration of anesthetics, analgesics, and tranquilizers by those responsible for their use; (4) procedures for reporting deficiencies in animal care; and (5) utilization of services available to provide information on alternatives.



Animals are not abused and are handled in a manner that is expeditious and careful not to cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort, as specified in 9 CFR 2.38(f).