

eProtocol IACUC: Now Online

The University is implementing a new online protocol submission system, called **eProtocol IACUC**. The purpose of **eProtocol IACUC** is to provide a more efficient way to prepare, submit, approve, and track protocols through the IACUC protocol approval process.

The IACUC is integrating Investigators into **eProtocol IACUC**. We encourage you to complete all new or third-year resubmissions using **eProtocol IACUC**. While we will still accept protocols using the current Word Doc format, we encourage everyone to begin using **eProtocol IACUC**.

The IACUC will be providing training sessions beginning later this month. As soon as times have been scheduled, they will be posted on the *eProtocol IACUC Information Central* at:

<http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/iacuc/eprotocol/>

If you have any questions, please contact Justin McNulty at 475.8650 or jmcnulty@austin.utexas.edu.

Laboratory Animal Occupational Health Program (LAOHP)

ALL persons exposed to animals in a laboratory or vivarium environment or to fresh (unfixed) animal tissues must enroll in the LAOHP. Directions for enrolling can be found on the Training section of the IACUC website. You must re-enroll at least once every three years. Some users may be required to submit annual updates. All LAOHP forms need to be submitted to the Animal Resources Center (Mail Code **A2500**) and **NOT** to the Office of Research Support.

Common Deficiencies Identified During Semi-Annual Inspections

- **Dirty surgical areas.** Keep surgery areas clean and clutter free. Post cleaning and sanitation schedules; record dates performed.
- **Controlled substance storage.** Secure controlled drugs and their records (not visible and under double and separated locks and keys).
- **Improper sharps disposal.** Dispose sharps in proper sharps containers. Containers should never be overfilled.
- **Overfilled biohazard containers.** Use proper containers to dispose of biohazards. Containers should never be overfilled.

Tip of the Month

Have you ever wondered how the IACUC reviews your protocols? In an effort to assist investigators and protocol writers, we have recently posted the Primary Reviewer Checklist on the Forms page of the IACUC website.

Each protocol is assigned a primary reviewer, usually selected for their expertise or familiarity with a given topic. The primary reviewer is responsible for an in-depth review of the protocol, following the format of the Primary Reviewer Checklist. In addition, the Primary Reviewer presents the protocol to the Committee and leads discussion on the protocol.

The next IACUC Full-Committee Review (FCR) is **December 15, 2008**.

The deadline to submit materials for review is **December 3, 2008**.