

Semi-Annual Facility Inspections: Complete!

The May 2009 Semi-Annual Facility Inspections are complete. Common deficiencies observed included incomplete daily checklists, incomplete cage cards, expired pharmaceuticals, recapped needles in sharps containers, and overfull sharps containers.

Thank to everyone involved in the inspections. Your continued attention to details helps assure a good (and compliant) animal care and use program.

The University of Texas at Austin IACUC is working hard to ensure that our Animal Care and Use Program is the best that it can be. Thanks for doing your part in helping us achieve this goal.

Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals

The Guide is used "to assist institutions in caring for and using animals in ways judged to be scientifically, technically, and humanely appropriate. It also serves to assist investigators in fulfilling their obligation to plan and conduct animal experiments in accord with the highest scientific, humane, and ethical principles."

The Guide is available for free online:
http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=5140

eProtocol Tip of the Month

Did you know there is an eProtocol IACUC User's Guide? The User's Guide was created when we launched eProtocol IACUC last fall. The User's Guide covers everything from protocol creation to protocol approval (and everything in between, such as the eProtocol Review Process, finding and responding to review comments, etc.)

The User's Guide is available FREE OF CHARGE on the eProtocol IACUC Information Central (on the IACUC website).

School's Out for the Summer: Update Protocol Personnel Lists!

Use the modification form or a quick email to IACUC@austin.utexas.edu to remove students that will no longer work on your protocol(s) and to add new members that will be joining your lab over the summer.

If you have an eProtocol, then you must initiate the personnel modification online, by beginning a protocol REVISION.

Remember, personnel changes should be done in real time (i.e., when people join or leave a lab) and not on an annual basis (i.e., at the time of the annual renewal).

Post-Approval Monitoring (PAM)

The purpose of the Post-Approval Monitoring Program (PAM) is to ensure that research and teaching activities involving the use of live or dead vertebrate animals are conducted in accordance with all applicable regulations and are consistent with the Principal Investigator's IACUC-approved Animal Utilization Proposal and amendments.

Any approved Animal Utilization Proposal may be subjected to post approval monitoring. Usually, protocols will be selected during initial review, during the review of new procedures, or at the time of the annual renewal. PI's will be asked to coordinate post-approval monitoring with Animal Resources Center (ARC) staff.

The next IACUC Full-Committee Review (FCR) is **July 13, 2009**.

Please refer to the IACUC website for the appropriate deadline date(s).