

Classification of Surgical Procedures

The criteria used to differentiate major and minor surgical procedures are those as listed in the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (p. 61-62), i.e., major survival surgery penetrates and exposes a body cavity or produces substantial impairment of physical or physiologic functions while minor survival surgery does not expose a body cavity and causes little or no physical impairment.

If an animal recovers consciousness after a surgical procedure, it is considered a survival procedure. If the animal remains anesthetized or sedated throughout the procedure and is euthanized while unconscious, it is considered non-survival.

Reference: National Research Council. 1996. *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*. National Academy Press, Washington, D.C. 125p.

Reporting Animal Care Concerns: “Whistle-Blower” Policy

Any person who has concerns regarding any aspect of the care and use of animals in research at The University of Texas at Austin is encouraged to voice that concern. The Attending Veterinarian has the authority and responsibility for ensuring compliance with all animal care and use standards and is the appropriate person to receive initial concerns.

There are a number of options available to communicate concerns about animal care and use at The University of Texas at Austin, or to report instances of suspected non-compliance with laws, rules, regulations and policies. The names and phone numbers of contact persons including the Attending Veterinarian, the Director of the Office of Research Support, and the Compliance Helpline should be posted in animal facilities

For your convenience, this information is attached to the newsletter and should be posted in animal facilities (including laboratories).

A Fresh New Look is Coming

Look for our new and improved newsletter design next month.

Reminder: LABOHSP Enrollment is Required for EVERY Animal User

Any person exposed to animals in a laboratory or vivarium environment or to fresh (unfixed) tissues is required to enroll in the Laboratory Animal and Biomedical Occupational Health Services (LABOHSP).

Users may ELECT to participate or DECLINE to participate in the LABOHSP. Users that ELECT to participate have the opportunity to meet directly with a nurse practitioner to discuss health risks affecting animal users, including zoonoses, allergies, hazardous materials, and physical injuries.

eProtocol Tip of the Month

How can I see certain protocols? Once logged into eProtocol IACUC, you will have access to see all those (and only those) protocols on which you have been listed in the *Personnel Info* section.

You will only have access to edit those protocols on which you are listed as either: Principal Investigator, Co-Principal Investigator, Administrative Contact, or Other Submitter. You must have edit access for a particular protocol in order to start a Modification (Revision) or Continuing Review (Annual Update) application for that protocol.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are listed in the “Other Personnel” section of a protocol, you only have read access to that protocol.

The next IACUC Full-Committee Review (FCR) is **September 14, 2009**.

The deadlines to submit materials for review are:

- eProtocol: **August 21, 2009**
- Paper: **September 2, 2009**



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NOTICE: There are a number of options available to communicate concerns about animal care and use at The University of Texas, or to report instances of suspected non-compliance with laws, rules, regulations and policies.

- 1) Contact the Attending Veterinarian for the campus, Dr. Glen Otto, at 512/471-2392 or gotto@mail.utexas.edu
- 2) Contact the IACUC Program Coordinator in the Office of Research Support, at 512/475-8650
- 3) The Compliance HelpLine, supervised by the Office of Institutional Compliance, may also be used. The telephone number for the Compliance HelpLine is 512/471-2831. E-mail can be sent to helpline@compliance.utexas.edu. A confidential mailbox is also maintained at PO BOX 8118, Austin, TX 78713.

All complaints and concerns will be handled confidentially to the extent allowed by law.