

IACUC Update

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
The University of Texas at Austin

September 2010

Volume 4, Issue 1

Reporting Animal Care Concerns: “Whistle-Blower Policy”

Any person who has concerns regarding any aspect of the care and use of animals in research or teaching 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 an 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 (ORS), and the Compliance HelpLine should be posted in animal facilities.

Attached to this newsletter is a poster that contains this information, and should be posted in animal facilities (including labs).

Welcome Back Everyone

A new academic year is here and there may be new faces in the lab. Be sure to update your protocol(s) personnel listing.

For eProtocols: you must initiate the personnel revision online by creating AND submitting a protocol REVISION.

For Legacy Protocols: Personnel changes for Legacy Protocols (e.g., paper protocols) must use the Protocol Personnel Modification Form (PPMF) to add or remove personnel.

Contacting the IACUC

Always use the general IACUC email address (IACUC@austin.utexas.edu) for all IACUC correspondence. If anything is sent to an individual's email address, response may be delayed if that person is absent.

Ethics of Animal Use

The use of animals in research, teaching, and/or testing is an important ethical and political issue. Using live or dead animals in research, teaching, and/or testing requires that the researcher accept certain responsibilities. Webster's dictionary defines 'ethics' as:

1. The principles of honor and morality;
2. Accepted rules of conduct;
3. The moral principals of an individual.

Animal experimentation continues to be challenged by some individuals on the basis that it is immoral; that humans do not have the right to “exploit” other species, even if the experimentation may benefit humans and animals.

Those who believe that the knowledge gained for the benefit of humans AND animals more than justifies this use also believe that the animals must be used in an ethical manner. This means that there are certain rules of conduct that must be followed to ensure that experiments involving animal use are ethical. A summary of those rules is called **The 3 Rs**.

Source: AALAS Learning Library (Course 543, Lesson 6).

eProtocol Tip of the Month

Why was my protocol RETURNED? The Vice President for Research established the Office of Research Support (ORS) to serve as an administrative office to support the IACUC. The ORS receives protocols and screens them regarding compliance with administrative requirements, readability, and completeness. Protocols are usually returned because questions have not been answered, additional details are required, etc.

The next IACUC Full Committee Review (FCR) is **October 11, 2010**.

The deadline to submit materials for review is **September 17, 2010**.

Animal Welfare Assurance
A4107-01

AAALAC Accredited Since
October 29, 2001



INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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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 at Austin, or to report instances of suspected noncompliance with laws, rules, regulations and policies. Any person may report concerns (anonymously, if they wish) using these contacts:

- 1) The Attending Veterinarian for the campus, Dr. Glen Otto, at (512) 471-2392 or gotto@mail.utexas.edu.
- 2) The Director of the Office of Research Support at (512) 471-8871 or orssc@uts.cc.utexas.edu.
- 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.

Reference: UT-Austin HOP Policy 11.B.3 "Use Of Animals In Research And Teaching Activities"

Questions about animal bites, scratches, other exposures or allergies? Work-related injuries? Recombinant DNA (rDNA) exposure or biohazard risks? Contact HealthPoint!

HealthPoint
Balance & Well-Being in Work & Life

Occupational Health Program

Office: NOA 3.214
Hours: Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed noon to 1:00 p.m.)
Phone: (512) 471-4OHP (4647)
Fax: (512) 471-2666
Email: HealthPoint.OHP@austin.utexas.edu
Web: <http://www.utexas.edu/hr/current/services/ohp.html>

After hours consultation with an OHP nurse is available by calling the main number. Emergency or after hours urgent care is provided by St. David's affiliated emergency rooms.

Questions about drug/chemical storage and/or disposal? Spills, splashes, lab accidents? Controlled substances? Sharps? Biohazards? Carcass disposal? Contact Environmental Health & Safety!

 **Environmental
Health & Safety**

Office: SER 221
Phone: (512) 471-3511
Fax: (512) 471-6918
Email: ehs-labstaff@austin.utexas.edu
Web: <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/ehs/lab/>