

# IACUC Update

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

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## Protocol Funding Sources

As part of the IACUC review, the IACUC considers whether adequate resources exist to ensure the appropriate use of animals. One way this is accomplished is to evaluate the funding sources for the proposed research.

The "Funding Sources" section of your eProtocol allows for you to indicate Funding as Sponsored Projects, Other, or No Funding.

Keep in mind that the protocol funding information should accurately reflect the funding source(s) for the specific work carried out under the protocol. Specific grant source(s) should be named if money is spent to conduct animal work contained in that grant.

## New IACUC Guideline



The IACUC has issued a new guidance document (Guideline # 016) entitled "**Guidelines for the Use of Drugs and Chemicals in Animal Research.**" The guideline provides an overview of the requirements that must be met when using drugs and chemicals in laboratory and animal research. The new guideline is posted under the "Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines" section of the IACUC website.

## Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals: Eighth Edition Published

The Institute for Laboratory Animal Research of the National Academy of Sciences has published the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals: Eighth Edition (Guide)*. To browse or purchase the *Guide*, see: [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12910](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12910). A PDF version of the *Guide* is available for free for download on the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) website at: <http://olaw.nih.gov>.

## Who Can Be A

### Principal Investigator?

The individual named as the Principal Investigator (PI) must be of faculty status and maintain primary academic residence on campus. It is important that the person responsible for the oversight of animals and the personnel using them be resident at the campus. There may be special circumstances where a non-faculty staff member is granted permission to be a PI on a protocol. Post-Docs and technicians, however, are not permitted to be PIs. Persons in these positions are expected to be employed within the lab of, or mentored by, a faculty member, and that faculty member should be the primary PI on a protocol. For more information, refer to IACUC Policy 3.4.

## Rationale for Numbers and Species

One of the IACUC's charges under the Animal Welfare Act is to review the investigator's rationale for the number of animals and species of animals selected.

Investigators must show that they are using the smallest number of animals compatible with their scientific goals, and that the species they have chosen is the most appropriate for the study.

Since the numbers necessary are in part defined by the experimental/statistical design, a justification of the basis of this design should be included in the protocol. It is the obligation of the investigator to use the fewest number of animals possible to obtain valid results; the justification should thoroughly explain how this has been accomplished.

The next IACUC Full Committee Review (FCR) is **March 9, 2011**.

The deadline to submit materials for review is **February 18, 2011**.

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