

IACUC Update

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

The University of Texas at Austin

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Inside the IACUC: Types of Protocol Review

Part 2 of 3

Federal regulations allow for three types of review of animal protocols: Full Committee Review, Designated Member Review, and Administrative Review.

Designated Member Review (DMR): Briefly, a list of applications eligible for DMR is distributed to all IACUC members and any member can call for Full Committee Review (FCR) of any application. If no member requests FCR, the Chair designates one or more reviewers who have the authority to approve the application or require modifications to secure approval. The Designated Reviewer does not have the authority to withhold approval of an application; any protocol with serious concerns must be presented to the Full Committee for further discussion.

The DMR process is intended to allow the Committee to devote more time during convened meetings to protocols warranting greater discussion, such as proposals involving more invasive or more painful procedures. Protocols that involve minimal potential for pain/distress (e.g., euthanasia of animals for tissue harvest only) or that do not involve substantial modifications (e.g., continuation applications with no significant changes) are more likely to be reviewed through DMR. Review through DMR, however, is no less thorough than review through FCR.

Committee members are notified of applications eligible for DMR throughout the week. While this process can often allow a quicker turnaround time than review via FCR, DMR is not the same as the "expedited review" process permitted for review of certain human research proposals. It is also important to note that assignment to DMR does not guarantee that an application will not be referred to FCR.

Next month, we will discuss Administrative Review.

U.S. Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training

When the *PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* was updated in 1996, the PHS endorsed the U.S. Government Principles:

http://history.nih.gov/research/downloads/US_Principles.pdf

PRINCIPAL II: Procedures involving animals should be designed and performed with due consideration of their relevance to human or animal health, the advancement of knowledge, or the good of society.

ORS has MOVED!

The Office of Research Support is now located in the Flawn Academic Center (FAC) Suite 426.

eProtocol Tips of the Month

Why was my protocol RETURNED?

The Office of Research Support (ORS) screens protocols for compliance with administrative requirements, readability, and completeness. Protocols are usually returned because questions have not been answered, additional details are required, grant proposals have not been uploaded, etc. **Only completed protocols submitted by the submission deadline will be accepted for review.**

The species I work with is not listed!

Email IACUC@austin.utexas.edu with the common name and scientific name and the species will be entered in the database for you.

The next IACUC Full Committee Review (FCR) is **August 15, 2011.**

The deadline to submit materials for review is **July 22, 2011.**

Animal Welfare Assurance

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