IACUC Update

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

Coping with Loss:
A Word from *Health*Point

In addition to the routine stressors that come with being employed at an institution of higher education, animal care workers in the research setting can experience unique stressors. They may feel uncomfortable talking with friends and family about their work setting and experiences. Additionally, they may develop strong attachments to the animals involved in their research and thus experience feelings of grief and loss when an animal dies.

It is important to acknowledge the stressors associated with animal euthanasia. Addressing the issue helps to minimize adverse health outcomes and improve job satisfaction for animal care workers.

Just as the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is focused on animal welfare, the *Health*Point organization is focused on the health and well-being of our staff & faculty. Specifically, the *Health*Point **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)** can meet with employees confidentially to discuss their unique work setting and experiences related to animal care work. EAP will listen with empathy, without judging and assist employees with enhancing their coping strategies for stress and loss.

HealthPoint
Balance & Well-Being in Work & Life
Employee Assistance Program

To schedule a confidential appointment, call EAP at 512.471.3366 or email at **eap@austin.utexas.edu**.

For more information about EAP counseling services, visit the EAP website at: **http://www.utexas.edu/hr/current/services/informational/counseling.html**

Inside the IACUC:
Types of Protocol Review
Part 3 of 3

While Federal regulations allow for two types of review of animal use protocols: Full Committee Review and Designated Member Review, recent guidance from the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) granted authority for a small number of items to be administratively approved.

Administrative Review (AR): Revisions to existing protocols that involve certain changes not considered significant (e.g., addition of a new funding source, changes in personnel (other than PI changes), use of a new vivarium housing location, etc.) can be reviewed administratively. Typically, the turnaround time for applications undergoing AR ranges from a few days to a week.

eProtocol Tip of the Month

How do I renew my protocol? On your eProtocol IACUC HOME page (the page you see when you first log in), look at your **Approved Protocols**. Click on the number of the protocol you wish to renew. A small window should open with several options, e.g., Open in View Mode, Protocol Details, Start Revision, Start Renewal, etc. If the option to "Start Renewal" is not available, then (1) you may not have EDIT access to this protocol, (2) a protocol revision may already be pending, or (3) it is too early to renew (renewals can be submitted beginning 60 days prior to expiration).

PLEASE NOTE: A renewal cannot be submitted while a revision is still in process. Changes to the protocol, however, can be included during the renewal form submission.

The next IACUC Full Committee Review (FCR) is **September 12, 2011**.

The deadline to submit materials for review is **August 19, 2011.**