

IACUC Update

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

August 2013

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New VAS Requirements

After September 1, 2013, the Vertebrate Animal Section (VAS) of grants and contracts must be consistent with the AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals: 2013 Edition. In their submission to NIH, grant applicants are required to describe any method of euthanasia to be used and the reasons for its selection and to state whether the method proposed is consistent with the 2013 AVMA Guidelines. If the proposed method is not consistent with the AVMA Guidelines, a scientific justification must be included in the VAS. For more information, please see [NOT-OD-13-098](#) {NIH website}.

Flowmeter for Carbon Dioxide Euthanasia Needed Soon

The past two newsletters described the recent revisions to several of the IACUC's guidelines that pertain to euthanasia of laboratory animals. In particular, the recent revisions now require that CO₂ gas must be delivered using a compressed gas cylinder, pressure regulator, and flowmeter.

Flow meters should be in place prior to the next round of IACUC semi-annual facility evaluations, which occur in late September/early October 2013.

VWR International has a campus-wide purchasing agreement that combines competitive pricing with ease of purchasing for UT departments. Their catalog number 89012-426 is an all-in-one CO₂ regulator and flowmeter, which fits the large H-tanks commonly used as a CO₂ source. For retrofit purposes, their catalog number 89012-414 is a 0-12 L/min CO₂ flowmeter that could be attached (with proper fittings and tubing) to compatible existing regulators that can provide 50psi gas flow.

Please contact the Office of Research Support or Animal Resources Center if you have any questions.

Reporting Animal Care Concerns: "Whistle-Blower Policy" ¡Ahora en Español!

Any person who has concerns regarding any aspect of the care and use of animals in research, teaching or testing at The University of Texas at Austin is encouraged to voice that concern.

Concerns about animal care and use should be reported to the Attending Veterinarian, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, or University Compliance Services. The names and phone numbers of these contact points should be posted in animal facilities and laboratories.

The IACUC has prepared a poster that contains this information and should be posted in animal facilities (including labs). The poster, in both English and Spanish is available on the IACUC website.

Semi-Annual Lab Evaluations: Coming Soon!

The semi-annual evaluations of all the University's animal facilities will occur from **September 30 through October 14, 2013**. This process involves an examination of all areas where animals are used or housed for teaching, research, and/or testing.

A complete schedule will be provided in next month's *IACUC Update*.

You can begin preparing your laboratory for the visit by reviewing the revised "Laboratory Self-Evaluation Checklists" that are available on the "Documents, Materials, and Forms" page of the IACUC website.

The next IACUC Full Committee Review (FCR) is **September 16, 2013**.

The submission deadline for review at this FCR is **August 23, 2013**.

Animal Welfare Assurance
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October 29, 2001

Please contact the Office of Research Support with any questions, comments, or concerns.
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