

ANIMAL CARE AND USE UPDATE

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

September
2019
Volume 12,
Issue 3

The next IACUC
Full Committee
Review (FCR) is
**Monday,
October 7,
2019.**

The submission
deadline for
review at this
meeting is
**Monday,
September 16,
2019.**



Semiannual Facility Evaluations: September 23-27, 2019

(Official schedule can be found on page 3)

The responsibility of the IACUC is to oversee the provisions for the care and well-being of animals used for research, teaching, and testing at UT Austin. ORSC has compiled a list of common questions and answers regarding facility evaluations for researchers on our website:

1. Why must the IACUC inspect my animal areas twice per year?
2. What can I do to prepare my laboratory for inspections?
3. What can I expect after the inspection of my laboratory?

Updated "Laboratory Self-Evaluation Checklists" that contain common deficiencies to help you prepare can be found here. [Visit this link for more information.](#)

The IACUC considers the opportunity to interact with animal users to be an important part of semiannual evaluations. Therefore, a knowledgeable representative must be present to meet IACUC representatives at any animal use lab space and non-central vivarium housing room.



New Protocol Review Procedure Approved by IACUC!

At the September 9, 2019 IACUC meeting, the IACUC approved a procedure that will be helpful to many researchers seeking initial protocol approval.

The UT Austin IACUC utilizes two methods of protocol review, as mandated by OLAW and USDA:

1. Full Committee Review (FCR)
2. Designated Member Review (DMR)

Continued on page 2.

Veterinary Verification & Consultation and Protocol Changes

The IACUC has pre-approved methods, materials, and reference resources, including the IACUC Guidelines, to support the expedited approval of certain significant changes in protocols. The IACUC authorizes designated University of Texas at Austin veterinarians to use their training and professional judgment to verify* that a requested modification is one that the IACUC has approved as a change that can be made in consultation with the veterinarian.

** Verify means that the veterinarian determines, based on his or her experience and training, the significant change is reasonable for a particular animal or group of animals in a particular situation and meets the parameters of the IACUC reviewed and approved policies.*

Consultation with the veterinarian must occur before any change is implemented and the associated protocol must be amended to reflect the change in a reasonable time period.

Continued on page 2.

Animal Welfare
Assurance
D16-00592
(A4107-01)

USDA Class R Research
Facility
Customer ID: 1453
Certificate:
74-R-0029

AAALAC Accredited Since
October 29, 2001



New Protocol Review Procedure Approved by IACUC!

(Continued from page 1)

Historically, all NEW, FULL animal use protocols were assigned to the upcoming FCR meeting. Other submissions (i.e. amendments) are made available for the Committee to vote if they want the protocol to be reviewed at the FCR or by a DMR. If after five business days the Committee unanimously votes DMR, then the submission is reviewed and approved outside of the FCR. [IACUC Procedure 3.6 Protocol Review Procedures](#) contains additional information about FCR vs. DMR.

The procedure that was approved on September 9, 2019 makes it so some new, full protocols can be reviewed and approved outside of the FCR (by a DMR). The protocols must meet both criteria below in order to be considered for this type of review:

1. Non-USDA covered species are used
2. Pain/distress category is no higher than C or terminal D

The IACUC still has the ability to call **any** protocol to FCR, even if the protocol qualifies for DMR review under the criteria above.

This procedure focuses less on submission deadlines and more on providing timely responses to reviewer comments/ questions.

Processes will not feel much different for researchers; however, they could see faster approvals.

If you have questions about how the IACUC reviews submissions, please feel free to reach out to the IACUC office: IACUC@austin.utexas.edu



Need Help?

ORSC is here to assist. Please call or email with any questions, comments, or concerns!

512-471-8871
IACUC@austin.utexas.edu

Veterinary Verification & Consultation and Protocol Changes

(Continued from page 1)

The changes that can be made include:

1. A change in anesthesia, analgesia, and sedation methods as long as the new drug, dosage and method of administration are appropriate for the procedure and species.
2. Changes in euthanasia from the method currently listed in the protocol to an alternative method that is considered species-appropriate based on the IACUC's [Guidelines for the Humane Euthanasia of Laboratory Animals](#) or the [\(2013\) AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals](#).
3. Duration, frequency, type, or the number of performances of an approved procedure already included in the research protocol. **The change cannot result in greater pain or distress in the affected animals** (i.e. adding a category D procedure where there was only C before). **The specific intent of the procedure must remain the same.** (i.e. changes in blood withdrawal techniques, changes in injection techniques).

NOTE: Clinical treatment of animals for pain, distress, and illness remains under the purview of the clinical veterinary staff.

The Veterinary Verification & Consultation (VVC) review method may be utilized in two ways:

1. Via submission of an amendment: If an amendment is submitted and qualifies for VVC review, ORSC staff will automatically forward the change to the designated UT Austin Veterinarian.
2. Prior to amendment submission: A designated Veterinarian may approve these IACUC approved changes in person, on the phone, or via email. The Investigator must then submit an amendment to update the protocol ASAP.

Again, consultation with the veterinarian must occur before any change is implemented and the associated protocol must be amended to reflect the change in a reasonable time period. If the change requested cannot be approved via VVC, it will be reviewed using other methods. If you have questions about how the IACUC reviews submissions, please feel free to reach out to the IACUC office.

Reference: [IACUC Policy 3.9.3 Veterinary Verification & Consultation and Protocol Changes](#)

Fall 2019 IACUC Semiannual Evaluation
Monday, September 23, 2019 – Friday, September 27, 2019

Monday, September 23, 2019

9:00 am – 11:30 am ARC

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

9:00 am – 11:00 am NHB, IRC

1:00 – 3:30 pm PAT

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

9:00 am – 11:00 am PHR, MBB, NMS, BME

1:00 – 3:00 pm BEL, PAI, ETC, SEA

Thursday, September 26, 2019

9:00 am – 11:00 am DPI

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm MSI, FAML

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm BFL

Friday, September 27, 2019

9:00 am – 11:00 am HDB

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm **IF NEEDED: Make-up time for any missed labs**