

ANIMAL CARE AND USE UPDATE

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



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THE NEXT IACUC FULL COMMITTEE REVIEW (FCR) IS MONDAY, JULY 13, 2020.

[Click here for when to submit your protocol in order to be reviewed at this meeting.](#)

Meeting dates through the end of 2020 can be found on our website here.

Looking for COVID-19 Correspondence?

Need to find previous correspondence or letters from the IACUC and ARC regarding COVID-19? They can all be found on our website under [Coronavirus Communications and Updates](#).

New Rodent Training Requirement

A new module is now required for some rodent users to complete before their protocol may be reviewed by the IACUC. Effective May 11, 2020, the following personnel must complete the AALAS Learning Library course 5345, entitled ["Post-Procedure Care of Mice and Rats in Research: Minimizing Pain and Distress"](#):

- Principal Investigators on rodent protocols involving surgery or anesthesia
- Rodent surgeons and anesthetists

This training is meant to teach rodent users how to detect pain and distress in rodents.

The research community was notified of this training change on Tuesday, May 12, 2020. [See IACUC Policy 3.1.](#)

Updates from ARC

Remote Scheduling of Shared Spaces

In response to the coronavirus crisis and to make it easier for researchers to coordinate and schedule procedural spaces remotely, the ARC is offering expanded online scheduling for procedure rooms and necropsy spaces in all vivariums.

To schedule these resources, visit: <https://research.utexas.edu/arc/>.

A link for "Room Scheduling" can be found in the menu on the left side of the website.

For questions, please contact vetstaff@austin.utexas.edu.

AN0055 is Online

The course "Working Safely with Macaques in Research" is now available to be administered remotely. This class is required for macaque users every 3 years. To request this remote class, please email vetstaff@austin.utexas.edu.



Update from ORSC

New IACUC & IBC Program Coordinator

Debby Szczepanski is the new IACUC and IBC Program Coordinator in the Office of Research Support and Compliance. She will support the IACUC and IBC committees by assisting researchers and committee members with protocol processing, coordinating semiannual facility evaluations, and assisting the research community with regulatory or committee-related questions. Debby is a registered laboratory animal technician with AALAS. She came to UT Austin from UT Southwestern where she worked as a laboratory coordinator and senior veterinary technician. Please join us in welcoming Debby!



New & Updated IACUC Guidelines, Policies, & Documents

The following documents have been approved in the last 4 months. Find major revisions and locations of changes listed at the bottom of updated IACUC documents.

IACUC Guidelines

Guideline #6 - Guidelines for Surgical and Anesthetic Procedures in Non-Rodent Mammals

(update)

Guideline #7 - Guidelines for Surgical and Anesthetic Procedures in Rodents, Birds, and Cold-Blooded Vertebrates (update)

Guideline #10 - Guidelines for Safe Anesthetic Use (update)

IACUC Policies & Procedures

Policy #1.3 - Use of Embryonated Eggs in Research, Teaching, or Testing (new)

Policy #3.1 - Training Requirements for Animal Researchers (update)

Policy #4.8 - Animal Usage and Reporting (new)

Policy #6.0 - Reporting Animal Welfare Concerns and Noncompliance (update)

Policy #6.2 - The Complaint Assessment Subcommittee (CAS)

(update)

Policy #6.3 - Reporting Adverse Events (update)

Policy #7.0 - IACUC Confidentiality (update)

Policy #10.3 - Exception to IACUC Requirements in Emergency Situations (new)

Other IACUC Document

Requirements for Operation and Maintenance of Guillotines or Other Decapitation Equipment (update)

- Revised throughout to include other decapitation equipment (e.g. scissors)

Need Help?

ORSC is here to assist! Staff are working remote, so the best way to reach us with questions or concerns is by email.

IACUC@austin.utexas.edu

Animal Welfare Assurance

D16-00592 (A4107-01)

USDA Class R Research Facility

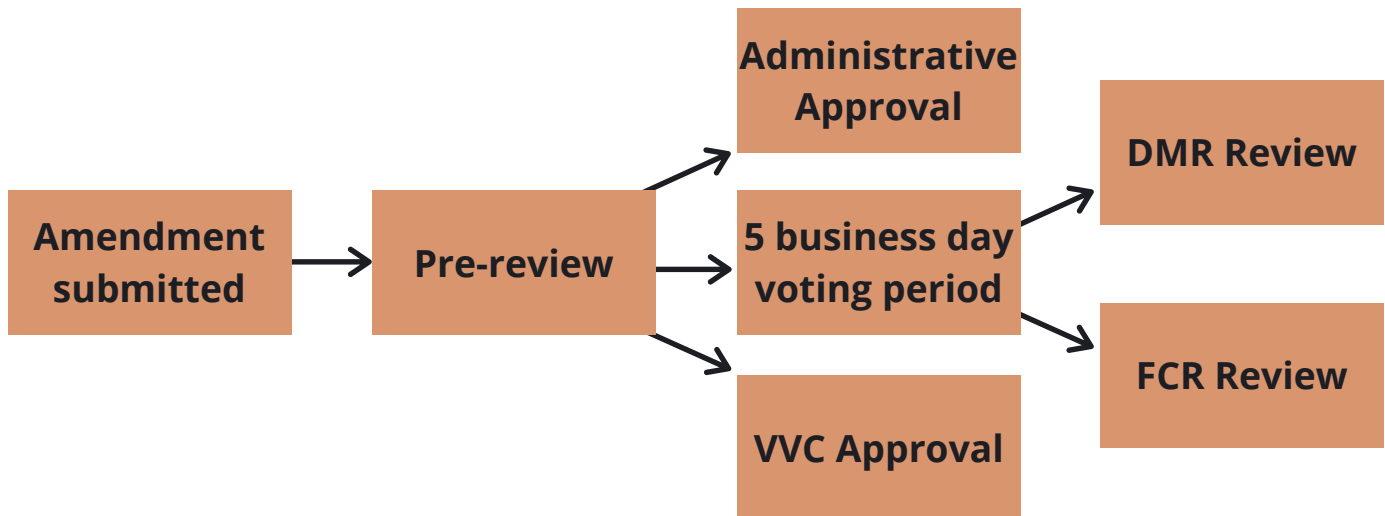
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"I submitted an amendment for IACUC review... now what?"

The IACUC utilizes various review processes for different types of amendments. Time from submission to approval varies with each.



All submissions undergo a pre-review by ORSC staff prior to IACUC review to ensure a complete submission.

If your change is significant (e.g. change in PI, addition of surgery, etc.), it will be sent to IACUC members for voting and they will have 5 business days to decide if the amendment should be reviewed by a **designated member reviewer (DMR)** or at the next available **full committee review (FCR)**. You will be notified if the amendment is called to FCR. If the amendment can be reviewed by a DMR, you can typically expect to receive comments/questions or approval in the next 5 business days. The process for DMR review usually takes a minimum of 2 weeks.

If the amendment only contains a non-significant change (e.g. changes to lab personnel [other than the PI], funding, procedure rooms already approved by the IACUC, etc.), then the change may be **administratively** reviewed and approved within 0-3 business days. Related IACUC policies: 4.0-4.3.

The IACUC utilizes a fourth review method called **veterinary verification and consultation (VVC)**. The IACUC has authorized veterinarians to approve some significant changes as long as they do not change the scope of the project or result in greater pain or distress. Approval time is similar to administrative review. The policy that describes this method in depth (4.4) may be found here.