

University of Texas at Austin
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

IACUC Policy # 4.4

Title	Veterinary Verification & Consultation and Protocol Changes		
Date of Approval	11-12-2018, 06-03-2019		
Date of Last Revision	06-03-2019, 07-20-2020	Version	2.2

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 verify¹ that a requested modification is one that the IACUC has approved as a change that can be made in consultation with the veterinarian.

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

The changes that can be made include:

- a) 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.
- b) 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 [AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals](#).
- c) 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. The specific intent of the procedure must remain the same. (Examples of this type of change include changes in blood withdrawal techniques and changes in injection techniques.)

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.

¹ 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.

Approval/ Revision Date	Major Change(s) Approved
07-20-2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE - Hyperlinks updated