

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, AUGUST 10, 2020.

[Click here for when to submit your protocol in relation to meetings.](#)

Meeting dates through summer 2021 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](#). The latest update was sent from the ARC on July 27, 2020.

Updated Guidance on CO2 for Small Rodent Euthanasia

The [AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals](#) recently underwent updates in 2020. The flow rate for CO2 euthanasia systems recommended for use with small rodents has been amended from 10-30% to 30-70% of the chamber or cage volume/minute.

Updated IACUC Guideline

Changes to the following guideline were approved by the IACUC at the July 13, 2020 full committee meeting. Find major revisions and locations of changes listed at the bottom of the updated document.

[Guideline #16 - Guidelines for the Use of Drugs and Chemicals in Animal Research \(update\)](#).

Checking Equipment and Supplies when Restarting Research

Research has been (and still is) on pause for many investigators. The IACUC would like to remind investigators as you head back into the lab to check your equipment and supplies for expiration and required re-certification dates.

- All **biological safety cabinets** (BSC) that are used with infectious materials must be certified annually. BSC have continued to be serviced during the University shutdown, however if you find any BSCs past certification date, report them to EHS.
- **Drugs and chemicals** (anesthesia, analgesia, etc.) used in live animals must be used within their expiration date. Check your supplies as you resume research. Physically segregate and mark "DO NOT USE" on expired drugs and chemicals. Discard as appropriate.
- **Isoflurane vaporizers** are required to be serviced annually. Contact local vendors to have your equipment serviced if out of date. In the meantime, mark "DO NOT USE" on out-of-date vaporizers.



New NIH Vertebrate Animals Section Online Training Module

A completed Vertebrate Animals Section (VAS) is required for PHS-supported research using live vertebrate animals. In 2016, the VAS was simplified from five to three required criteria.

The NIH wants to assist investigators in recognizing both the required components of the VAS and the components that are no longer required. This interactive module can be completed in 20 – 30 minutes and includes:

- an overview of the requirements
- a checklist for applicants and reviewers
- detailed instructions

For more information, visit the OLAW website on the VAS.

FAQ: IACUC Training & eProtocol

Q: I completed IACUC training, so why is it not reflected in eProtocol?

A: AALAS Learning Library and eProtocol only connect at certain times during each day. Training records will not immediately import into the eProtocol system. If you have completed an AALAS training module and the record is not immediately transferred into eProtocol, look again in a few hours.

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.

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D16-00592 (A4107-01)

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