

ANIMAL CARE AND USE UPDATE

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

The University of Texas at Austin



Semiannual Facility Evaluation Update

Thank you to PIs and lab staff for completing the IACUC survey about current animal use areas. In order to accomplish social distancing and limit the number of people in animal use areas, the IACUC will inspect ARC-managed areas the week of September 28, 2020 in the timeslots between or around building cohort groups. The schedule was distributed to all Principal Investigators who use or house animals in these areas on September 15, 2020.

To those investigators who perform animal work in a laboratory space that is not located within one of the ARC-managed areas, the IACUC will contact you separately to schedule an inspection of your laboratory either in person or over video. The IACUC appreciates your assistance as we adapt to the current situation.

Changes to the eProtocol Form

Additional questions were added to the eProtocol animal use protocol form in order to meet requirements of regulatory bodies and accrediting agencies. Main changes include:

- In the Husbandry section, additional questions were added about restraint of conscious animals, non-pharmaceutical grade compounds, and single housing.
- The Breeding & Genotyping procedure now asks about enhanced monitoring of genetically modified animals.
- All Anesthetic Regimen sections now ask for the frequency that parameters used to monitor anesthesia will be checked and recorded and what the lab's plan is for observing and documenting animal recovery from anesthesia.

Investigators will be asked to address the new questions during third-year resubmission reviews or amendments reviews if the changes apply to these questions.

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THE NEXT IACUC FULL COMMITTEE REVIEW (FCR) IS MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 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.

New & Updated IACUC Guidelines & Policies

The following documents have been approved in the last 2 months. Find major revisions and locations of changes listed at the bottom of the updated IACUC documents.

IACUC Guidelines

- Guidelines for the Humane Euthanasia of Laboratory Animals (update)
- Guidelines for the Use of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) for Rodent Euthanasia (update)
- Guidelines for Analgesia Use in Rodents (update)



IACUC Policies & Procedures

- IACUC Oversight for the Use of Invertebrate Animals and related protocol form (new- see next section)
- Use of Electronic Mail for Official Correspondence (new)
- The Committee (new)

Invertebrate Animal Use Policy



As a result of increased requirements from our external accrediting agency, AAALAC, the IACUC has implemented a policy that requires the use of cephalopods in research, teaching, and testing to be approved by the IACUC. Researchers using cephalopods do not have the same regulatory requirements as those using live vertebrate animals. Because of this, the IACUC has created a shortened protocol form for cephalopod researchers to complete.

The new IACUC policy may be found on our website and the cephalopod protocol form may be located within the policy.

Research Facility Animal Report

Coming October 1, 2020

Each year the IACUC has the obligation of reporting annual research animal use to various governmental and accreditation agencies. These reports must include the total number of animals you have used from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.

Unique reporting links will be sent to all PIs utilizing vertebrate animals in research, teaching, and testing at the University of Texas at Austin on October 1, 2020. To meet external reporting deadlines, your report MUST BE SUBMITTED by 1:00 p.m. on November 2, 2020.

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS on what to report can be found within IACUC Policy "Animal Usage and Reporting". See section 4.8.3 REPORTING ANIMAL NUMBERS FOR FEDERAL AND ACCREDITING AGENCIES for details.

New Training for Bird Users



A new AALAS training module is now required for all bird users, entitled “Introduction to Birds”. This module will teach investigators about:

- Federal requirements for the use of birds in research
- Occupational health
- Taxonomy and biological features
- Housing
- Handling and care
- Anesthesia and analgesia
- Monitoring animals, detecting pain and distress, and giving supportive care
- Surgery, injections, blood collection, and euthanasia

Updated Whistle Blower Posters

The UT Austin IACUC is obligated to investigate concerns regarding the care and treatment of animals used in research, teaching, and testing activities. UT Austin recently changed Compliance and Ethics Hotline vendors and as a result, there has been a change in the contact information for reporting concerns through University Compliance Services. Like before, any concerns regarding the care and treatment of animals in research, teaching, and testing may be reported to the Attending Veterinarian or IACUC office. Alternatively, individuals may also report to University Compliance Services. The new Compliance and Ethics Hotline vendor will still provide 24/7, anonymous reporting services via the web, phone, and email.

This change in contact information has been updated on the Laboratory Whistle Blower Postings (available in English and Spanish). The updated whistle blower posting must be posted in any areas where animals are used for research, teaching, or testing activities. Please discard old postings and replace them with the updated version as soon as you are able. For easy recognition, the updated posters have a picture of a frog.

For more information, visit the IACUC website on Reporting Animal Welfare Concerns. Postings may be found on our website or on pages 4-5 of this newsletter.

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
Customer ID: 1453 | Certificate: 74-R-0029

AAALAC Accredited
since October, 29, 2001



How to **report concerns** about animal use in research, teaching, or testing

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Austin that the best possible care be given to ALL animals used for research, teaching, and testing.

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is obligated to investigate concerns regarding the care and treatment of animals used in research, teaching, or testing at The University of Texas at Austin.

Concerns about animal care and use should be reported to one of the following:

Attending Veterinarian

(512) 471-2392 or gotto@austin.utexas.edu

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

(512) 471-8871 or iacuc@austin.utexas.edu

University Compliance Services

Report anonymously at www.utexas.edu/hotline,
anonymously by telephone at (877) 507-7321 (English),
or by email at compliance@austin.utexas.edu

Individual(s) reporting concerns do not have to identify themselves, and the University will, to the maximum extent possible, protect the privacy of those who report concerns. The policy of the University is to prohibit unlawful retaliation against employees as a consequence of good faith actions in the reporting of, or the participation in an investigation pertaining to, allegations of wrongdoing.

Questions about animal bites, scratches, other exposures or allergies? Work-related injuries? Recombinant DNA (rDNA) exposure or biohazard risks?



Office: **SSB 3.202**

Hours: **Monday through Friday**

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed noon to 1:00 p.m.)

Phone: **(512) 471-4OHP (4647)**

Fax: **(512) 471-2666**

Email: HealthPoint.OHP@austin.utexas.edu

Web: <http://www.utexas.edu/hr/current/services/ohp.html>

After-hours consultation with an OHP nurse is available by calling the main number. Emergency or after hours urgent care is provided by St. David's affiliated emergency rooms.

Questions about drug/chemical storage and/or disposal? Spills, splashes, lab accidents? Controlled substances? Sharps? Biohazards? Carcass disposal?



Office: **SER 202**

Phone: **(512) 471-3511**

Fax: **(512) 471-6918**

Email: ehs-labstaff@austin.utexas.edu

Web: <http://ehs.utexas.edu/programs/labsafety/>



Como **reportar inquietudes** sobre el uso de animales en la enseñanza, investigación, o experimentación.

Es la póliza de la Universidad de Texas en Austin que se brinde el mejor cuidado posible a TODOS los animales utilizados para investigación, enseñanza y experimentación.

El Comité Institucional de Uso y Cuidado de Animales (IACUC) está obligado a investigar las inquietudes relacionadas con el cuidado y el tratamiento de los animales utilizados en la investigación, la enseñanza o las pruebas en la Universidad de Texas en Austin.

Las inquietudes sobre el uso y cuidado de animales deben ser reportadas a uno de los siguientes departamentos:

Veterinario tendiente

(512) 471-2392 o gotto@austin.utexas.edu

Comité Institucional del Cuidado y Uso de Animales

(512) 471-8871 o iacuc@austin.utexas.edu

Servicios de Cumplimiento de la Universidad

Reporte anónimamente en www.utexas.edu/hotline,
o al teléfono 800-216-1288 (Español),
o por email a compliance@austin.utexas.edu

Los individuos que reportan inquietudes no tienen que identificarse, y la Universidad, en la mayor medida posible, protegerá la privacidad de aquellos que reporten inquietudes. La póliza de la Universidad es prohibir las represalias ilegales contra los empleados como consecuencia de acciones de buena fe en la denuncia o la participación en una investigación relacionada con las acusaciones de irregularidades.

¿Preguntas sobre mordeduras de animales, rasguños, otras exposiciones o alergias? ¿Lesiones relacionadas con el trabajo? ¿Exposición al ADN recombinante (ADNr) o riesgos biológicos?



Oficina: **SSB 3.202**

Horario: **Lunes a Viernes**

8:00 am. a 5:00 pm (cerrado de 12:00 pm a 1:00 pm)

Teléfono: **(512) 471-4OHP (4647)**

Fax: **(512) 471-2666**

Email: HealthPoint.OHP@austin.utexas.edu

Web: <http://www.utexas.edu/hr/current/services/ohp.html>

Consultas fuera del horario con una enfermera del OHP están disponibles hablando al teléfono principal. Cuidado de emergencias o urgente fuera del horario es proporcionado por salas de emergencia afiliadas con St. David's.

¿Preguntas sobre el almacenamiento y/o eliminación de medicamentos y/o productos químicos? ¿Derrames, salpicaduras, accidentes de laboratorio? ¿Sustancias controladas? ¿Objetos punzocortantes? Riesgos biológicos ¿Eliminación de cadáveres? ¿Riesgos biológicos? ¿Desecho de cadáveres de animal?



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