

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, FEBRUARY 8, 2021.

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

Meeting dates through the end of 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 October 21, 2020.

Post-Operative Monitoring Schedules

The IACUC's [surgical guidelines](#) require a minimum monitoring schedule for animals recovering from surgical procedures. Postoperative monitoring should be performed twice daily for the first 48-hours and daily for the next 1-3 days after that depending on the invasiveness of the procedure.

This monitoring schedule is critical because it will help to prevent unnecessary pain and distress by implementing twice-daily observations and intervening with additional analgesia or consultation with a veterinarian after the initial daily check if necessary. When the approved IACUC protocol specifies that animals be monitored at least twice daily, it is expected that monitoring events will be well spaced throughout the day to assure that humane issues can be identified promptly. **Monitoring generally occurs in the early morning and late afternoon, but alternative schedules are acceptable as long as observations occur every 10-14 hours, including weekends and holidays.** All observations should be documented in the surgical/post-operative records and available upon request. Investigators must be cognizant of this required schedule when planning surgical procedures and staffing cohort groups.

Continuing Education for Investigators: NIH Grants

The NIH's podcast, "All About Grants", has a new episode about *Considering Alternatives to Animals*. In the episode, Drs. Neera Gopee (NIH OLAW) and Christine Livingston (NCATS) discuss the 3Rs (replace, refine, and reduce), helpful resources for relevant policies, what's needed for the vertebrate animal section of a grant, role for IACUCs and peer review, as well as organoids, in silico models, and other alternatives. Those interested may listen to this episode and others here: <https://grants.nih.gov/news/virtual-learning/podcasts.htm>



Instrument Sharpening Mobile Unit

On Campus Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 9:00 am

The mobile instrument sharpening unit will be at the ARC dock area on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 9:00 am. If you have surgical instruments that need sharpening (including guillotines), bring your items with your PI's name, phone number and account number attached between 9:00 and 9:30 am.

Please contact Kathryn Starr at the ARC if you have questions.

Cell: 512-484-4174 | Office: 512-471-4145 | Email: katstarr@austin.utexas.edu

Free ARC Training via Zoom

The new year brings new personnel into the lab. The ARC is providing abbreviated training sessions via Zoom free of charge to all UT researchers using animals on an approved protocol. Training sessions include, but are not limited to AN0055 ("Working Safely with Macaques in Research"), surgical record review, and surgical and anesthesia consultations. If you have questions about what is offered or would like to request training, please contact the ARC Training and Compliance Manager, Jennifer Cassaday, at jencassaday@austin.utexas.edu.



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

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