

Spring 2023: New and Revised IACUC Guidelines and Policies and Announcements



- **Policy 3.1: [Training Requirements for Animal Researchers](#)** (revised 10/2022)
 - Added requirement that All labs must maintain Procedure Specific Training forms for all personnel. It is the responsibility of the PI to ensure that their lab personnel are properly trained in all procedures that they will be performing. [A link to the form can be found here](#) under the Animal Research Procedure Training Log section.
- **NEW Guideline # 23: [Guidelines for Sterilization of Equipment and Supplies for Sterile Procedures and Surgery](#)** (new 01/2023)
 - This Guideline outlines requirements, methods of sterilization including guidance and monitoring, surgical pack preparation, and storage of sterile items.
 - Please note that the storage of sterile items requirement has changed. Sterilized surgical packs that are kept in a closed cabinet, drawer, or container may be stored for 1 year. These items on the open benchtop must be resterilized after 1 month. We highly suggest keeping freshly sterilized items in a closed cabinet or drawer. In all cases, the date of sterilization and expiration date should be clearly marked on the outer wrapper and all pack must be thoroughly inspected to ensure that they are dry, intact, and not soiled before use. Items found in this condition must be repackaged and sterilized before use.
- **Guideline # 22: [Guidelines for Analgesia Use in Rodents](#)** (revised 02/2023)
 - Updated Buprenorphine HCL dosing requirements: buprenorphine HCL must be administered every 4 hours when used alone, or every 6 hours when used in combination with an NSAID (Carprofen or Meloxicam) and local analgesic. the ARC vet-staff is recommending the use of Ethiq, which is the first FDA-indexed extended-release buprenorphine formulation specifically for mice and rats. This product provides up to 72 hours of analgesia with just one pre-surgical injection, making it far less labor-intensive, and far more effective for pain management during the full post-operative period.
- **New Service Provided by the ARC: Pre-surgical injection of Ethiq (Buprenorphine-SR) as a fee for service**
 - The ARC has added an “[Ethiq XR® \(buprenorphine extended-release\) Administration Request Form](#)” form to their website and can provide pre-surgical injection of Ethiq as a fee for service. This should make utilizing Ethiq a feasible alternative for low throughput surgical groups that would like to utilize this product but would have significant product waste should they purchase their own.

- **Guideline # 15:** [Guidelines for Veterinary Care, Health Checks, and Illness Reporting](#) (revised 10/2022)
 - Added section to address Daily checks and post-procedural monitoring during emergency events (such as a severe winter storm).
- **Guideline # 10:** [Guidelines for Safe Anesthetic Use](#) (revised 01/2023)
 - Now includes creating a Lab specific Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) in consultation with EHS for safe use of anesthetics. Lab personnel should be trained by a qualified member of the lab and it should be documented on their Procedure Specific Training form.
- **Guideline # 24:** [Requirements for Operation and Maintenance of Guillotines or Other Decapitation Equipment](#) (revised 01/2023)
 - This guideline was reformatted. The following clarifications were added: type of scissors that are acceptable for euthanasia, required training verification and documentation, details of who should perform maintenance and blade sharpening.
- **Guideline # 17:** [Guidelines for the Social Housing and Environmental Enrichment of Laboratory Rodents and Rabbits](#) (revised 12/2022)
 - Now includes general categories of exceptions to social housing not requiring IACUC protocol approval that are applicable to all species. It also updated the mouse section to address male siblings and conspecifics.