

Spring 2024: New and Revised IACUC Guidelines and Policies and ACUP Announcements



- **[Guideline 26: Guidelines for Acclimation of Newly Acquired Research Animals \(NEW\)](#)**
 - This guideline outlines the minimum acceptable acclimation period for animals arriving at The University of Texas at Austin to ensure that newly arrived animals are provided an adequate period to stabilize to their new environment. The goal of acclimation is to allow animals to recover to a stable physiological and behavioral baseline prior to experimentation.
- **[Guideline 27: Guidelines for Sanitation of Hand Washed Items \(NEW\)](#)**
 - This document provides guidance for hand washing items that come in contact with animals.
 - It includes a NEW requirement for annual validation of sanitization. More information about the logistics of the requirement will be circulated soon.
- **[Policy 3.1: Required Training for Animal Researchers](#)**
 - Added new online and in person training requirements for mammalian surgeons and anesthetists.
 - Added new in person training requirement for rodent users.
 - Researchers will be prompted to sign up for the new courses through protocol review.
- **[Policy 1.3: Use of Embryonated Eggs in Research, Teaching, or Testing](#)**
 - This policy now requires that investigators also report to the IACUC if eggs inadvertently hatch.
- **[Guideline 21: Guidelines for the Use of Food or Fluid Restriction](#)** –
[Appendix 1: Guidelines for the Use of Food or Fluid Regulation in Macaques](#) AND
[Appendix 2: Guidelines for the Use of Food and Fluid Regulation in Mice and Rats](#)
 - These documents were redesigned to have 1 main guideline that explains the expectations for all species and then two species specific appendices that go into further detail on the specific requirements for each particular species.
- **[Guideline 23: Guidelines for Sterilization of Equipment and Supplies for Sterile Procedures and Surgery](#)**
 - Added clarification to the requirements section regarding small bore instruments.

- [Guideline 7: Guidelines for Surgical and Anesthetic Procedures in Rodents](#) AND [Guideline 27: Guidelines for Surgical and Anesthetic Procedures in Fish and Amphibians](#)
 - Guidelines were revised to address rodents or fish and amphibians in new separate guidelines.
- [Guideline 9: Guidelines for Maintenance of Tumors and Hybridomas in Rodents](#)
 - Added clarification that this Guideline applies to both inoculated and naturally occurring tumors.
- **Animal Care and Use Program Orientation - June 25, 2024**
 - The IACUC is now offering an in-person orientation where new or seasoned PIs and lab members can meet the key members of the Animal Care and Use Program, learn about the requirements and information that will help get you started, and ask questions and get answers in real time. These sessions are held virtually, although lab or department specifically tailored sessions can be arranged. Email IACUC@austin.utexas.edu to sign-up.
- **NEW [Field Research Safety Guidelines](#) from EHS**
 - This document is intended to aid faculty, staff, and students with the primary motivation of promoting safety and minimizing risks associated with the execution of research activities in a field setting. Each fieldwork outing is unique and the best way to address your specific hazards is to prepare your own “Safety Plan”. A template is provided on page 3 of this document.
- **NEW [Isoflurane Safety Sheet](#)**
 - The Isoflurane safety sheet was created to provide a quick reference to be used prior to operating the anesthetic gas vaporizer. The checklist should be used before every use to help ensure human safety.
 - ****The IACUC will have laminated copies of this when they come to visit your lab... ask us for one!****
- **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.
- **[Lentivirus Instructions to Medical Provider](#) available through OHP- Labs**
 - If you work with lentivirus vectors and have an exposure involving lentivirus, please see the Instructions for Medical Care of Lentivirus Vector (LVV) Exposures. It is advised that you keep a copy in an easily accessible place in your lab for quick “grab-and-go” access.