GRANT AND CONTRACT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS REGARDING THE AVMA GUIDELINES OF ANIMALS: 2013 Edition

The NIH has announced (NOT-OD-13-098) that after September 1, 2013, the Vertebrate Animal Section (VAS) of grants and contracts must be consistent with the 2013 AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals. In their submission to NIH, grant applicants will be required to describe any method of euthanasia to be used and the reasons for its selection and to state whether the method proposed is consistent with the 2013 AVMA Guidelines. If the proposed method is not consistent with the AVMA Guidelines, a scientific justification must be included in the VAS.

The Duke Animal Program was anticipating this move and began 4 months ago to assure all protocols were fully congruent with the 2013 AVMA Guidelines. As such, Duke researchers should be in a great position regarding these new NIH requirements.

Implementation of the Revised International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals
Notice Number: NOT-OD-13-096

PHS-Assured institutions outside the U.S. are encouraged to adopt the revised Guiding Principles as soon as possible, and full implementation is expected after October 1, 2013. OLAW will confirm an institution’s adoption of the Guiding Principles at the next renewal of the Foreign Assurance.

These guiding principles for foreign PHS-Assured institutions somewhat parallels the US Government Principles for domestic PHS-Assured institutions. Researchers performing PHS-funded work at foreign intuitions should be aware of the revised Guiding Principles, see page 4 for a complete listing.

DR. ANNA HAMPTON JOINS THE DUKE ANIMAL PROGRAM

It is with great pleasure that we introduce Dr. Anna Hampton, who is joining the Duke animal program as the Assistant Director, Office of Animal Welfare Assurance.

Dr. Hampton graduated from veterinary college at the North Carolina State University and performed Postdoctoral Clinical Training in Laboratory Animal Medicine at the University of Michigan Medical School. At the conclusion of her residency, she successfully completed board certification as a diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. She subsequently performed an internship at the Carolina Veterinary Specialist Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina, and is a licensed clinical veterinarian in North Carolina. In her most recent role as the Attending Veterinarian for the North Carolina State University, Dr. Hampton expertly guided the institution’s program of veterinary care.

With several publications and numerous community and professional engagements to her credit, Dr. Hampton will be a wonderful addition to the Duke animal program and the institution’s outreach efforts. We are exceedingly pleased to have Dr. Hampton join the Office of Animal Welfare Assurance. Dr. Hampton’s email address is: Anna.Hampton@Duke.Edu

Wishing you a successful research month,
DR. DEBBIE VANDERFORD BECOMES BOARD CERTIFIED WITH THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF LABORATORY ANIMAL MEDICINE

Dr. Debbie Vanderford, Compliance Liaison—Protocol Assistance has successfully passed the board certification examination for the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM).

ACLAM Diplomates are involved in a wide variety of activities, including management and direction of animal resource facilities and programs; clinical medicine, surgery, and programs of disease prevention; consultation on the care and use of laboratory animals; assisting institutions in achieving compliance with animal care and use regulations; collaborative and independent research; and instruction and training.

For the past several years, Dr. Vanderford has assisting researchers with developing a protocol application (and amendments too) which the IACUC can review and approve efficiently. Dr. Vanderford’s operational accomplishments have decreased the delay in protocol submission to approval from several months (pre-2004) to generally one month or less (2013). While having a direct impact upon protocol processing, Debbie has prepared herself for the ACLAM Board Certification process, and with her success joins several other Duke veterinarians who already serve the institution and faculty as Board Certified veterinarians.

Please join us in recognizing the accomplish of Dr. Debbie Vanderford as a board certified veterinarian with the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine.

Congratulations, Debbie! Well done!!!

LIXITS 101
Keith St. Pierre, BA RLATG CMAR
Operations Manager, DLAR

Research animals need adequate water to survive. Common sense, right? However, most individuals assume that when they place a cage of mice or rats onto a housing rack with an automatic watering system that the animals will have access to an unlimited supply of water.

Unfortunately, that is not always the case! As with any mechanical system, it is important to verify the drinking valve or lixit is functioning properly by priming it before placing cages on the rack.

The vast majority of the time the procedure is simple and only takes a second. Prime the lixit by toggling the stem on the end of the lixit and if water comes out you are done and a cage can be placed into that space on the rack!

If you can’t get water to come out of the lixit it may be necessary to replace the lixit. In that case, place the cage in a different space (after testing the lixit of course!) and notify the DLAR Operations Manager of the cage space location with the lixit that is not functioning properly. DLAR staff will replace it with a new one and test it to ensure that it is functioning properly.

These simple steps can protect both your research animals and your research!
THE NUMBERS DON’T TELL THE CORRECT STORY
(Huffington Post (UK))

A researcher at the University College of London's Institute of Neurology writes, "Despite the fact that over 97% of animal research is carried out using mice, rats, birds and fish, much of the coverage of the 2012 government statistics will probably carry pictures of monkeys, cats and dogs (together less than 0.2% of research animals) under headlines de-crying the government's failure to bring the total numbers down." Huffington Post (UK).

IACUC SEMIANNUAL SITE VISITS: FALL 2013 SCHEDULE

⇒ AUGUST 1: LRSC; SANDS
⇒ AUGUST 8: GSRB2
⇒ AUGUST 15: BRYAN; NAN DUKE; VSH
⇒ AUGUST 29: GSRB2 ANNEX; JONES; RP 2-4; GSRB1; ENGINEERING
⇒ AUGUST 30: MARINE LAB
⇒ SEPTEMBER 12: CARL; EYE CENTER; DLAR FARM; INDY PARK
⇒ SEPTEMBER 19: CCIF
⇒ OCTOBER 3: FOSTER ST; BIOLOGY; FRENCH; CIEMAS
⇒ OCTOBER 10: DUKE NORTH/SOUTH; GHRB
⇒ OCTOBER 17: VIVARIUM; MSRB1
⇒ OCTOBER 31: LEMUR CENTER; ECOTOX; MSRB2

APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE NEXT RESEARCH ANIMAL COORDINATORS CERTIFICATION COURSE

Applications are being accepted for the upcoming Research Animal Coordinator Certification training course which is scheduled to begin on September 17, 2013. Go to the Research Animal Coordinator web page for an application and submit it to Bill Wade w.wade@duke.edu or 919-668-6725.

There are a few spots remaining! Don't get left out! If have a lab manager or know of someone who would benefit from discovering the secrets to animal program man-

CO2 FLOW METERS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE DLAR PHARMACY

New AVMA guidelines require the use of a flow meter to deliver CO2 for those labs who are approved to use CO2 for rodent euthanasia.

Flow meters are now available through the DLAR pharmacy for $230.00 (part no. 89012-426) Please contact Terri Lucas, Veterinary Services Manager for further details on ordering.

Flow meters are also available from the VWR store (located in the LSRC building) for $164.29. Order numbers are as follows:
- Supplier number: 401740
- VWR Catalog number: 89012-426

For assistance with installation and set-up please contact Bill Wade at 919.668.6722.

2013 MEETINGS CALENDAR

September 11-12: IACUC 101: The Basics and IACUS 201 Plus; Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR
September 26-28: Academy of Surgical Research 29-th Annual Meeting; Sandpearl Resort, Clearwa-ter, FL
October 23-26 Association of Primate Veterinarians Workshop; Cambridge, MD
October 27 SCAW IACUC Training Workshop Baltimore, MD
October 27 4th Annual Laboratory Animal Lean Management Symposium; Baltimore, MD
October 27-31 AALAS 64th Annual Meeting; Balti-more, MD
INTERNATIONAL GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INVOLVING ANIMALS

PREAMBLE
The International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals has been the framework for the development of laws, policies, and guidelines for over 25 years. When the Guiding Principles were written in 1985, the profession of laboratory animal medicine and science was still establishing best practices and standards of care. Over the years, many of these practices and standards have become ingrained in the oversight structure of numerous countries. Since the publication of the original Guiding Principles, the scope of animal research has expanded significantly, numerous technological advancements have occurred, and societal attention to the welfare of research animals has increased. This evolution has prompted an update and expansion of the focus of the Guiding Principles to address contemporary issues facing scientists when animals are used for research and education.

The revised International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals is the result of a partnership between the Council for International Organizations for Medical Science (CIOMS) and the International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) formed to update the Guiding Principles. These international organizations have a common mission of advancing international collaboration in biomedical sciences. The revised document is the outcome of an international collaboration of scientists, veterinarians, and other experts whose ideas and suggestions were gathered from more than 10 different meetings held in conjunction with several scientific conferences around the world over a period of more than 3 years. Discussions were based on the Statements of Principles for the Use of Animals from over 30 professional societies, organizations, and countries. The working group had an international and interdisciplinary membership representing several pivotal stakeholder professional organizations.

The revised International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals reflect congruence with the more specific guidance offered by other national and international agencies. These Guiding Principles will be a touchstone for countries with emerging research and teaching programs that use animals in developing a framework of responsibility and oversight to ensure the appropriate use of animals. They may also serve as an international benchmark for countries with well-developed animal-based research programs. As noted in 1985, there are varying approaches in different countries to the use of animals for research, testing and teaching purposes. By applying the these Guiding Principles and other documents with more specific standards of care, each country can develop a detailed system of guidelines or regulations that is commensurate with national customs and social practices.

The use of animals in research, education and testing is an essential component of the advancement of our understanding about human and animal function. This knowledge is important for advancing human and animal health and welfare through disease prevention and cures, new treatments, and drug and device development. The scientific community, understanding that using animals is a privilege entrusted by society, remains committed to ensuring the health and welfare of animals as an integral consideration when animals are used for these purposes.

The following principles should be used by the international scientific community to guide the responsible use of vertebrate animals in scientific and/or educational activities.

I. The advancement of scientific knowledge is important for improvement of human and animal health and welfare, conservation of the environment, and the good of society. Animals play a vital role in these scientific activities and good animal welfare is integral to achieving scientific and educational goals. Decisions regarding the welfare, care, and use of animals should be guided by scientific knowledge and professional judgment, reflect ethical and societal values, and consider the potential benefits and the impact on the well-being of the animals involved.

II. The use of animals for scientific and/or educational purposes is a privilege that carries with it moral obligations and responsibilities for institutions and individuals to ensure the welfare of these animals to the greatest extent possible. This is best achieved in an institution with a culture of care and conscience in which individuals working with animals willingly, deliberately, and consistently act in an ethical, humane and compliant way. Institutions and individuals using animals have an obligation to demonstrate respect for animals, to be responsible and accountable for their decisions and actions pertaining to animal welfare, care and use, and to ensure that the highest standards of scientific integrity prevail.

III. Animals should be used only when necessary and only when their use is scientifically and ethically justified. The principles of the Three Rs – Replacement, Reduction and Refinement – should be incorporated into the design and conduct of scientific and/or educational
activities that involve animals. Scientifically sound results and avoidance of unnecessary duplication of animal-based activities are achieved through study and understanding of the scientific literature and proper experimental design. When no alternative methods, such as mathematical models, computer simulation, in vitro biological systems, or other non-animal (adjunct) approaches, are available to replace the use of live animals, the minimum number of animals should be used to achieve the scientific or educational goals. Cost and convenience must not take precedence over these principles.

IV. Animals selected for the activity should be suitable for the purpose and of an appropriate species and genetic background to ensure scientific validity and reproducibility. The nutritional, microbiological, and general health status as well as the physiological and behavioral characteristics of the animals should be appropriate to the planned use as determined by scientific and veterinary medical experts and/or the scientific literature.

V. The health and welfare of animals should be primary considerations in decisions regarding the program of veterinary medical care to include animal acquisition and/or production, transportation, husbandry and management, housing, restraint, and final disposition of animals, whether euthanasia, rehoming, or release. Measures should be taken to ensure that the animals’ environment and management are appropriate for the species and contribute to the animals’ well-being.

VI. The welfare, care, and use of animals should be under the supervision of a veterinarian or scientist trained and experienced in the health, welfare, proper handling, and use of the species being maintained or studied. The individual or team responsible for animal welfare, care and use should be involved in the development and maintenance of all aspects of the program. Animal health and welfare should be continuously monitored and assessed with measures to ensure that indicators of potential suffering are promptly detected and managed. Appropriate veterinary care should always be available and provided as necessary by a veterinarian.

VII. Investigators should assume that procedures that would cause pain or distress in human beings cause pain or distress in animals, unless there is evidence to the contrary. Thus, there is a moral imperative to prevent or minimize stress, distress, discomfort, and pain in animals, consistent with sound scientific or veterinary medical practice. Taking into account the research and educational goals, more than momentary or minimal pain and/or distress in animals should be managed and mitigated by refinement of experimental techniques and/or appropriate sedation, analgesia, anesthesia, noon-pharmacological interventions, and/or other palliative measures developed in consultation with a qualified veterinarian or scientist. Surgical or other painful procedures should not be performed on unanaesthetized animals.

VIII. Endpoints and timely interventions should be established for both humane and experimental reasons. Humane endpoints and/or interventions should be established before animal use begins, should be assessed throughout the course of the study, and should be applied as early as possible to prevent, ameliorate, or minimize unnecessary and/or unintended pain and/or distress. Animals that would otherwise suffer severe or chronic pain, distress, or discomfort that cannot be relieved and is not part of the experimental design, should be removed from the study and/or euthanized using a procedure appropriate for the species and condition of the animal.

IX. It is the responsibility of the institution to ensure that personnel responsible for the welfare, care, and use of animals are appropriately qualified and competent through training and experience for the procedures they perform. Adequate opportunities should be provided for on-going training and education in the humane and responsible treatment of animals. Institutions also are responsible for supervision of personnel to ensure proficiency and the use of appropriate procedures.

X. While implementation of these Principles may vary from country to country according to cultural, economic, religious, and social factors, a system of animal use oversight that verifies commitment to the Principles should be implemented in each country. This system should include a mechanism for authorization (such as licensing or registering of institutions, scientist, and/or projects) and oversight which may be assessed at the institutional, regional, and/or national level. The oversight framework should encompass both ethical review of animal use as well as considerations related to animal welfare and care. It should promote a harm-benefit analysis for animal use, balancing the benefits derived from the research or educational activity with the potential for pain and/or distress experienced by the animal. Accurate records should be maintained to document a system of sound program management, research oversight, and adequate veterinary medical care.

CO2 CAGES LIDS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE OAWA

New AVMA guidelines strongly recommend the use of the home cage for euthanasia. The animal program has modified several lids for common Duke rodent cages. These are available free by contacting Bill Wade @ 919.668.6722.
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Publications and Resources Available from OLAW
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/request_publications.htm

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FBR's semi-annual biomedical magazine ResearchSaves showcases medical and scientific breakthroughs with foundations in animal research and strong human interest elements. All articles are submitted by universities, nonprofits and companies across the country.

Each magazine also includes a full-length DVD, poster or educational program. Annual subscriptions are available for $39, which includes shipping and handling. Complimentary issues are available to K-12 teachers, thanks in large measure to the generous sponsorships granted from individual biomedical researchers.

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