



Duke University Medical Center

Nancy C. Andrews, M.D., Ph.D.
Dean, School of Medicine
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Institutional Official

15 February 2008

To: All Duke Research Investigators

Re: Veterinary Authority over Animals Being Used for Research and/or Testing
at Duke University

Dear Colleagues:

This memo is established to establish the authority of Duke veterinarians for assuring animal well-being for animals used in research, testing, or teaching activities involving animals at Duke University.

USDA regulations state the following:

"Each research facility shall assure that the attending veterinarian has appropriate authority to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care and to oversee the adequacy of other aspects of animal care and use." (Animal Welfare Regulations 9 CFR, Section 2.33)

In order to ensure the provision of adequate veterinary care, it is institutional policy that veterinarians in the Division of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR) have the ultimate authority in determining the need for medical treatment or euthanasia of animals used in all research, testing, or teaching activities at Duke. Further, the Lemur Center veterinarians (and DLAR veterinarians while providing emergency coverage) have similar authority for animals located at the Lemur Center.

The Attending Veterinarian and associated DLAR (and Lemur Center) veterinarians will make every attempt to seek your input should an emergency arise with one of your animals, but whether or not contact is possible, the course of action will be guided by professional veterinary judgment. Please understand that DLAR and Lemur Center veterinarians have full institutional support in exercising the responsibility of preventing pain or suffering in Duke animals.

Questions regarding this policy may be directed to the IACUC (Dr. James Reynolds @ 668.6720), the Duke Attending Veterinarian (Dr. John Norton @ 684.4204) at the Division of Laboratory Animal Resources, or the Office of Animal Welfare Assurance (Dr. Ron Banks @ 668.9720)

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nancy C. Andrews".

Nancy C. Andrews, M.D., Ph.D.
Dean, School of Medicine