



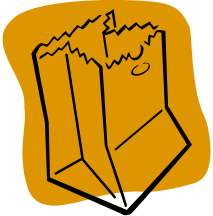
ANIMAL TRACKS



A newsletter for the Duke research community

February 2006

<http://www.duhs.duke.edu>



Brown Bag Seminar

The Duke Animal Care & Use Program is pleased to announce the development of a new communication tool for our community. On

March 30, 2006, we invite you to bring your lunch bag and join us at noon in the Bryan Research Building Auditorium (Room 103) for the first Duke Animal Program Brown Bag Seminar.

This seminar series is a spin-off of the highly popular Lunch-n-Learn series hosted by the Office of Compliance, focused toward the clinical (human) research community. The Brown Bag Seminars are directed toward department administrators, animal researchers, laboratory managers, and animal research associates. The goal: Sharing of program information, helpful tips, and best practices on accomplishing animal research at Duke efficiently and effectively. The plan: You bring your lunch, we will provide drinks, dessert, and information.

The first session topic (March 30 @ noon) is: "How to Write a Protocol that the IACUC will Approve." Or to say it another way, what are the most common errors seen on animal use applications? Dr. Ron Banks, Director, Office of Animal Welfare Assurance, will provide insight into protocol review, the IACUC approval process, differences between grant review and protocol review, and places where faculty often stub their toe on submitting a protocol for review and approval. The next Brown Bag Seminar has been scheduled for May 4, 2006. Watch the next issue of *Animal Tracks* for more information!

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Whistleblower Policy

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, OR COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CARE AND/OR WELFARE OF RESEARCH ANIMALS?

The Duke University Animal Care & Use Program has a clear and defined policy against animal misuse, neglect, or abuse. Any individual who has concerns related to the use of animals at Duke University is encouraged to voice those concerns. There are many ways in which you can make an initial notification of animal use concern:

1. Call the Duke Animal Welfare Hotline @ 919.684.3535, or
1. Email the Duke IACUC @ IACUC@duke.edu, or
3. Contact the Chairman of the IACUC (Dr. Lee Tyrey) @919.684.6720, or
4. Contact the Attending Veterinarian for the Duke Program (Dr. John Norton) @ 919.684.4204, or
Email: john.norton@duke.edu, or
5. Contact the Director of the Office of Animal Welfare Assurance (Dr. Ron Banks) @ 919.684.4744, or
Email: ron.banks@duke.edu.

Duke University will not tolerate any reprisal against an individual who has come forward with concerns or allegations of wrong-doing involving the care and use of animals. Such reprisal is prohibited by federal law (USDA Regulations & the 9th Code of Federal Regulations). Individuals who feel that a personnel action has been taken against them because they reported an apparent violation of animal care and use requirements, should present their case to Chairman of the IACUC.

NOTE: A laminated version of this policy is being distributed to all Duke animal housing facilities and laboratories. If you wish to have a laminated copy to post in your area, please contact Sonia at sonia.doss@duke.edu

Are You Looking for an Alternative to Retro-orbital Blood Collection in Mice?

Are you currently approved to collect blood from mice using the retro-orbital method? Do you find this method unpleasant? Have unintentional injuries occurred to the eyes of the mice which have been bled via the retro-orbital method?

If you are seeking an alternative to the retro-orbital blood collection method in mice look no further! Here is an alternative blood collection method—and this method is **PREFERRED** by the Duke IACUC (rather than retro-orbital).

The maxillary bleed is a quick and efficient way to collect blood from a mouse. More information about this method can be viewed online at: http://www.medipoint.com/html/animal_lancets.html

The procedure is performed as follows:

1. Restrain the mouse by scruffing the loose skin over the neck and shoulders. It is imperative that the restraint partially occlude the blood flow to the jugular veins. Make sure the mouse can adequately breathe after being restrained.
2. Look for the small dimpled area (near whiskers) on the side of the mouse's face to use as a landmark. Using a 18 or 20 gauge needle, or a commercially available lancet, puncture the spot. You will need to puncture the skin and the blood vessel.
3. Remove the needle or lancet and blood will immediately begin to drip. Collect the blood in a suitable container. Three drops of blood equals approximately 0.1 ml (Be sure not to collect more than is approved in your protocol).
4. Blood should stop flowing a soon as you release the restraint.
5. Observe the mouse to ensure bleeding has stopped and return to cage.

Remember: You must amend your animal use protocol *prior* to performing this procedure with your mice. To learn more about this method or to schedule a training session, please contact the Division of Laboratory Animal Resources (DLAR).



Administrative Action on Termination of Reviewed (Not Approved) Protocols

The IACUC reviews over 350 new animal use applications each year. To prevent an administrative back-log that affects all researchers, and to encourage reasonable response to IACUC inquiries, the Duke animal care & use program will adhere to the following guidelines for Principal Investigator (PI) responsiveness to IACUC requested clarifications (the IACUC meeting day where the animal use application is considered is defined as the starting point [day 0]):

Between day 0-7: The Office of Animal Welfare Assurance (OAWA) will communicate (on behalf of the IACUC) the modifications required to secure approval to the PI.

Between day 25-30: If there is no response from the PI to the earlier communication, the OAWA will send an additional communication by email, fax, or hard copy letter to the PI, requesting a response to the IACUC's concerns. Email is preferred.

Between day 40-45: If there is no response from the PI to the earlier communication, the OAWA will send an additional communication by email, fax, or hard copy letter to the PI, requesting a response to the IACUC's concerns. Email is preferred.

Between day 50-55: If no response by the PI from the prior action, then:

- A. The OAWA will send an additional communication by email, fax, or hard copy letter to the PI, requesting a response to the IACUC's concerns. Email is preferred.
- B. The OAWA will place a phone call to the PI, and if the PI is not available, a message will be left on the voice messaging system.

On or near day 60: If no response by the PI, the OAWA will forward the application package with the referenced emails to the IACUC Chairperson for signature to authorize administrative termination of the application.

Soon after day 60: OAWA will send an email, fax or hard copy letter to the PI advising them of the action and advising them that a new protocol/amendment must be submitted to the IACUC if they wish to re-submit.

NOTE: To view the full text of the policy, visit the Duke animal program website.

Q & A Corner

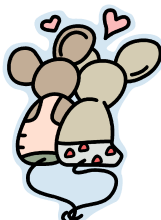
QUESTION: Some of my protocols involve both breeding colonies and experimental procedures. Using one of my transgenes, only 25% of the offspring will be the correct genotype, and these are used prior to weaning. I don't know whether to count all of the suckling animals, or just those I use for experimentation.

ANSWER: There are certain conditions that determine whether suckling animals are counted or not:

1. If suckling animals are used for an experiment, then they must be counted—regardless of age. (e.g. the numbers must be requested on the animal use application).

2. If the suckling animals are not used for experimentation and are euthanized prior to weaning (due to being the wrong genotype), then the animals are not counted against the total numbers of animals approved. However, the protocol should describe the numbers anticipated for each breeding and an anticipated number of animals that will be euthanized prior to weaning (of course these numbers are based on an assumption of the genotypic expression percentage in the litters produced).

NOTE: Breeding animals (whether founder or expansion breeders) must be counted as part of the protocol.



QUESTION: My graduate student wishes to do animal-based research. My personal efforts do not involve animal handling — I will provide oversight and mentorship only. Can my graduate student serve as the Principal Investigator, or will I be required to serve as the Principal Investigator?

ANSWER: Yes, your graduate student can serve as the Principal Investigator, but you (as faculty member) must serve as the Sponsor of the activity. The Duke animal program policy defines a Principal Investigator as:

1. Faculty of Duke University or Duke University Medical Center, or
2. Veterinarians on staff at the DLAR, DUPC, or VAMC, or
3. Duke staff, students (undergraduate or graduate) or third party individuals. All item 3 categories MUST have a faculty member (see 1) or a veterinarian (see 2) serving as a Sponsor for the proposed activity. The Sponsor is responsible to Duke and to the IACUC for all activities and obligations involving the animals. All correspondence will be sent to the Sponsor as well as the Principal Investigator. In this case (Item 3), the Sponsor shares the responsibility with the PI for all animal care and use activities, and activities of the research personnel working with animals under the approved protocol.

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• Do you have a question relating to some aspect
• of the animal care program at Duke? Please
• send your questions for future columns to
• sonia.doss@duke.edu
•••••

Upcoming Events

March 2	SC Amendment meeting
March 6	SC Amendment deadline
March 6	New protocol deadline
March 13	CO2 training
March 16	SC Amendment meeting
March 20	SC amendment deadline
March 23	New protocol meeting
March 30	Brown Bag Seminar
March 31	CO2 training
April 6	SC amendment meeting

SC= Significant change

North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research (NCABR)

Founded in 1989 by North Carolina's leading bioscience research institutions, the North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research (NCABR) is the only organization in the state dedicated to advancing all North Carolinians' appreciation for the remarkable benefits of bioscience research and careers.

For more information, visit <http://www.ncabr.org>