



# ANIMAL TRACKS



A newsletter for the Duke research community

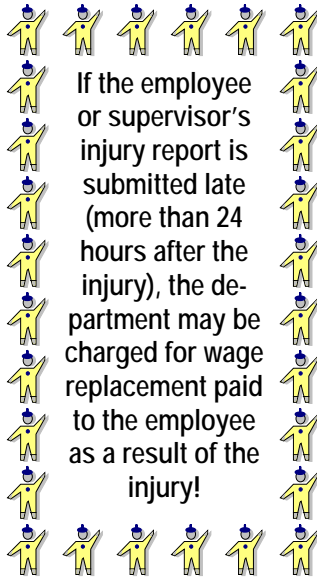
August 2008

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

## BITES & SCRATCHES

Dr. Carol Epling

Animal bites are not only painful but can have serious potential health consequences. All animals have bacteria in their mouths which can cause infections requiring antibiotics and in some cases hospitalization. Additionally, permanent nerve and joint injury can result from bite wounds, particularly in the hands and fingers. Risk factors for slow healing include severe injury with disruption of deep structures especially in the hand, and co-existing medical conditions such as diabetes, poor circulation, and immune system suppression due to illness or medications.



If the employee or supervisor's injury report is submitted late (more than 24 hours after the injury), the department may be charged for wage replacement paid to the employee as a result of the injury!

***If you are bitten or scratched by an animal, where the skin is broken, follow the standard procedures for first aid:***

- Safely secure the animal
  - Remove personal protective equipment
  - Immediately clean the wound with warm water and soap for at least 15 minutes
  - Apply adequate pressure to control bleeding and apply light bandage if needed
- Notify supervisor of the incident

***Professional medical attention is highly recommended for any rodent-inflicted wound that is more severe than a superficial scrape and for all rodent wounds that draw blood.*** Duke personnel must receive their medical attention at Employee Occupational Health and Wellness. Consultation with an Occupational Health Nurse is available at all times, (684-3136, option 2, during EOHW clinic hours, or call BBF Hotline 684-8115 when clinic is closed).

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## Security is MY Business

On Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008, the homes of two University of California - Santa Cruz mouse researchers were firebombed. This is the **FIRST TIME** rodent researchers have been targeted by animal extremists. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has classified these attacks as 'acts of domestic terrorism and attempted homicide' under the 2006 Animal Enterprise Terrorist Act. Congress established this act to expand the protections offered by the federal government to researchers targeted by animal extremists.

Commenting on the incidents, Frankie Trull, President of the Foundation for Biomedical Research said: "The FBI must make animal rights terrorism a primary concern before lives are lost. It is not only the researchers themselves who are at risk, but also their families. I urge researchers and administrators to take all necessary security precautions." This message is part of our security precaution – alerting you to changes in animal extremist activity, so you can be aware and be prepared.

Along the west coast, home harassments have become a new focus by extremists who have been unsuccessfully attacking laboratories. Associated with the focus on the researcher's homes, is another new and disturbing tactic. A crudely-constructed pamphlet titled "Murderers and Torturers Alive and Well in Santa Cruz" has been found in a number of public locations in the Santa Cruz area.

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## Upcoming Dates & Deadlines

Sept 1	New protocol deadline
Sept 8	SC amendment deadline
Sept 22	SC amendment deadline
Sept 25	IACUC meeting
October 6	New protocol deadline
October 6	SC amendment deadline

**Deadlines are 5 PM on the date listed! No exceptions!**

# NEW OAWA COMPLIANCE LIAISON

Dr. April Kolstad has joined the Office of Animal Welfare Assurance (OAWA) as Compliance Liaison. Dr. Kolstad is a 2004 graduate of the North Carolina State University School of Veterinary Medicine. Since matriculating veterinary medical college, she has worked as a staff veterinarian at a north Raleigh veterinary hospital.

April received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Wisconsin River Falls before moving to North Carolina in 2000. As with all OAWA veterinarians, she holds a veterinary practice license in North Carolina, which provides validated evidence of her skills as a clinician and surgeon in the role of Compliance Liaison for the Duke University community. Dr. Kolstad brings a strong practical basis of veterinary practice standards for animals.

April will be assuming the responsibilities and duties previously held by Dr. Julie Sharp prior to Julie's promotion to Assistant Director of OAWA.

You can reach Dr. Kolstad by her desk phone at 684.3990, email at [april.kolstad@duke.edu](mailto:april.kolstad@duke.edu) or cell phone 672.9684. She can also be reached via the central OAWA number: 668.6720.

Join us in welcoming the newest member of our animal care and use team!

## WHERE ARE YOUR PROTOCOLS?

**IACUC NOTE:** All members of the research team should either have a copy of the protocol they are working under, or have access to a copy of the protocol. Many laboratories have set up a lab specific directory on the computer that all lab members can access; others have created a loose leaf binder with the active protocols and keep that in the laboratory. Either option is acceptable. IACUC inspectors will cite a laboratory for a deficiency if the members of the laboratory do not have ready access to the protocols they are working under.

From page 1 ... Bites and scratches

The medical assessment will include determination of need to update tetanus booster, and treatment of the wound, potentially including a prescription for antibiotics to prevent infection. Symptoms and signs of infection may develop later even while taking an antibiotic and may include pain, redness, warmth, red streaking, fever and chills. If these symptoms develop, immediate medical attention is needed.

**Non-Human Primate Exposures:** Bites and scratches from nonhuman primates (NHPs) pose their own set of potential serious health consequences. Medical attention for lemur bites will include an assessment of need for post-exposure rabies vaccination. Macaques may be infected with Herpesvirus simiae (Monkey B virus). The virus can be transmitted to workers through scratches, bites, and splashes and can lead to deadly illness if not handled properly. Refer to the Herpes B Virus Exposure Guidelines available in the vivarium for detailed instructions in the case of an exposure. DO NOT delay first aid for the wound:

- **Bites and scratches** - thoroughly scrub and irrigate exposed area for a minimum of 15 minutes with a chlorhexidine or povidine-iodine scrub
- **Eye exposures** – flush copiously with water for 15 minutes

Herpes B virus is readily killed by most disinfectant soaps and the flushing action is reportedly the most effective method of removing the virus. Evaluation at EOHW clinic is required and after hours consultation by calling the BBF Hotline (684-8115) is advised. Post-exposure treatment with antiviral medication to prevent infection may be prescribed.

All work-related injuries, no matter how trivial they may seem at first, should be reported to Workers Compensation via the online AO16 form (<https://www.hr.duke.edu/secure/workcomp/a016.php>). Once proper medical attention has been administered, the employee and supervisor should complete the online form during the shift in which the injury occurred. **If the employee or supervisor's report is submitted late (more than 24 hours after the injury), the department may be charged for wage replacement paid to the employee as a result of the injury.** More information is available at the Duke Workers Compensation website (<http://www.hr.duke.edu/workcomp/>).

# CERVICAL DISLOCATION NO LONGER APPROVED AS A SECONDARY METHOD OF EUTHANASIA

On June 23, 2008, we had another incident failed euthanasia. In this latest case, the mice had been euthanized by carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) followed by cervical dislocation.

The Duke IACUC has approved the use of CO<sub>2</sub> when it is accompanied with a secondary physical method of euthanasia. In this framework, effective and humane euthanasia actually consist of two procedures: CO<sub>2</sub> **AND** the secondary method. As noted above, the latest adverse event indicates failure of BOTH procedure portions of euthanasia!

When euthanizing by CO<sub>2</sub> and a secondary method, certain obligations are necessary. These include:

- Carbon dioxide from compressed CO<sub>2</sub> cylinders is the only acceptable method.
- CO<sub>2</sub> Chambers must not be overcrowded. All animals must be able to place all four of their feet on the floor of the chamber at all times.
- Mixing of species IS PROHIBITED. Mixing species may cause undue distress to the animals being euthanized.
- Placing live animals in with recently deceased animals IS PROHIBITED.
- Chambers must be charged (allow full flow gas) for 1 minute prior to placing any animal (s) in the CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere,
- CO<sub>2</sub> gas flow must be maintained for an additional 2-3 minutes after apparent euthanasia (a total of 5 minutes of exposure to CO<sub>2</sub>) to assure complete euthanasia.
- A second form (a physical form) of euthanasia must be accomplished upon removal from CO<sub>2</sub>.

The Duke IACUC has considered encouragements from the NIH concerning methods of euthanasia, and determined that **CERVICAL DISLOCATION AS A SECONDARY METHOD OF EUTHANASIA IS NO LONGER PERMITTED!**

Protocol amendments are not necessary if you have other secondary methods listed on the protocol.

If cervical dislocation is the only method listed on your protocol, then please submit an amendment requesting the addition of an alternate secondary method of euthanasia. This is a minor amendment and will be processed quickly.

**To assure that the animals receiving carbon dioxide as their primary method of euthanasia do not recover, the IACUC will subsequently require a physical form of secondary euthanasia. The Duke IACUC has removed cervical dislocation from the list of approved secondary methods used to confirm euthanasia. Effective immediately:**

- **DO NOT use cervical dislocation as a method of secondary euthanasia. If you are observed using cervical dislocation, even if your protocol lists cervical dislocation as an approved secondary method, it will be considered a noncompliant activity.**
- **The only approved methods of secondary euthanasia are:**
  - **Bilateral Thoracotomy;**
  - **Removal of multiple organs for tissue procurement that would result in the death of the animal; or**
  - **Exsanguination (e.g. decapitation or vessel transection)**

While this may be considered a draculean step by some, the strong response is necessary to preserve the ability to use CO<sub>2</sub> as a primary method of euthanasia. We cannot continue to have euthanasia recoveries and persist with using CO<sub>2</sub>.

If CO<sub>2</sub> is removed as a primary method of euthanasia, then the only available option would include use of barbiturates, inhalant anesthesia overdose, or a physical method.

To prevent removal of CO<sub>2</sub>, as an approved method of euthanasia, improved performance is necessary! Please encourage your laboratory associates to assure humane AND effective euthanasia with CO<sub>2</sub>, or there may be no option but to remove CO<sub>2</sub> as an approved method of euthanasia!



# FREE WEB TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR DUKE RESEARCHERS

The Duke animal care and use program has subscribed as an institutional enrollment to the AALAS Learning Library. This web training resource is open to PI's with animal protocols, research associates, part time lab members, visiting staff (researchers or students). The only requirement to participate in the web training resource is to be associated with the Duke animal care and use program.

The AALAS Learning Library provides essential training. The AALAS Learning Library emphasizes appropriate handling, humane care, and compassionate euthanasia.

The AALAS Learning Library is a means of obtaining important training that does not cost you, your laboratory, or the research grant.

The catalog of available courses on the Learning Library is listed below. Certain modules (e.g. Intro to ...) would be most beneficial to new hires or visiting students, while other modules (e.g. pain recognition or aseptic technique would be of greater value to active research associates. All modules are available to you.

The AALAS Learning Library also provides the opportunity for continuing education units (CEUs), necessary for maintenance of certification for technical staff. In addition to the Learning Library, our subscription also includes access to self-administered test based on the scientific articles in *Contemporary Topics*. These tests are published six times a year. The online test questions are the same as the questions published in each issue of the hardcopy version of *Contemporary Topics*. New questions are posted online after each issue has been printed and mailed to subscribers. The Test Library for each issue will remain available for two months, after which the questions for the next issue will be posted. Answers to the previous issue's questions are also posted.

While enrollment to you and your laboratory staff is free, each will need a username and password to participate. Send an Email to: [IACUC@DUKE.EDU](mailto:IACUC@DUKE.EDU). On the SUBJECT LINE, say: "ACCESS TO DUKE / AALAS LEARNING LIBRARY." In the body of the message, list: FIRST NAME; LAST NAME; DUKE NET ID for the individuals who would like access to the Learning Library web modules. We'll do the rest.

ALAT courses	LAT courses	Preparing for AALAS technician certification
US mandates and Guidelines	Ethical Decision-Making in Animal Research Courses	Anesthesia and Analgesia
Videos/CDs on Biomethodology	Working with the IACUC	Introduction to Research Animal Methodologies
Essentials for IACUC Members	Nonhuman Primates Courses	Mouse Biomethodology Courses
Basic Metrics for the Laboratory Animal Facility	Selection of Cage Cleaner Products-Chemistry Driven	Writing Multiple Choice Questions
Laboratory Animal Medicine	Ergonomics Courses	Biosafety in Microbiologic and Biomedical Laboratories
Workplace Training	Communication Skills	Aseptic Technique for Rodent Survival Surgery
Time and Project Management	Facilities, Supplies, and Materials	Small Ruminant Anesthesia and Intra-Operative Monitoring
Conflict of Interest	Biosecurity	Nutrition
Dog Biomethodology Courses	CMAR Certification Preparation	LATG Courses (2007 LATG Training Manual)
	Bloodborne Pathogens for Animal Research	

# Disposing of Expired Controlled Substances

Controlled Substances (CS) purchased from DLAR may be returned to DLAR for disposal. For CS not purchased through DLAR, there are a few options:

A. Inject expired CS into a deceased (not alive) research animal. Dispose of the carcass in the standard manner.

B. Mix the expired CS with 'kitty litter' and toss the 'wet litter' in the trash can.

C. Toss the expired CS in an incinerator.

\*\*For options A, B, or C, an observer who does not have access to the CS materials must sign the log sheet documenting the disposal. Keep the log sheet for 3 years past the disposal date, after which time, shred the page.

D. Dispose of the CS through 'hazardous chemicals' disposition.

**The one way you SHOULD NOT dispose of CS agent is injecting it into the lab sink drain!**



*Did you know that the Animal Program website has suggested templates for controlled substance receipt, logging of use of single and compounded substances, and quarterly inventories?*

## DUKE AND VAMC ESTABLISH A MOU

Duke and the Durham VA animal programs have signed a Memo of Understanding to better support each institution's animal care & use program. Of interest to Duke researchers who work at the VA, are the following items:

- Duke PI protocol documents may be maintained by the VAMC, if you are doing work on that campus.
- Researchers are responsible to assure protocol amendments are shared with BOTH animal programs.
- Each IACUC manages a separate program. Protocol approval on one campus does not necessarily mean the approval will be granted on the other campus.
- A protocol is required for work performed on each campus (e.g. Duke protocol if work is performed at Duke; VA protocol is work is performed the VA).
- Adverse events reports will be shared with both programs.

To view the entire MOU visit the animal program policy page and click. 'Duke—VA MOU'

From Page 1 ... Security

Each page of the pamphlet showed a local researcher's picture, home address, and telephone number. This pamphlet warned "We know where you live. We know where you work. We will never back down."

Why are these actions important? Durham is a long way from Santa Cruz. Yes, Durham is a long way from Santa Cruz, but there are those in North Carolina who also oppose the use of animals in research, testing, or teaching. We have generally been fortunate, but we are not protected from such illegal and harmful activity. The methods used by terrorists in Santa Cruz to identify and advertise researchers personal information might also be used in Durham! Their methods to find personal information requires no special investigation skills. Have you identified your Duke affiliate or provided your home address with a credit card application, a catalog, or a political contribution? Certain types of information (e.g. political contributions) are publically available by federal law. I doubt that any of us expect our political contributions to be accessible, but under public disclosure laws, it is. This is just one of many examples of where we provide our personal information to publically accessible sites. Remember, your personal information is only as secure if you do not share it!

It is not a time to be paranoid, but it is a time to be prudent. A few suggestions: Do not give personal information that can tie your family to your profession—use your Duke mail address or a post office box number when the information may become public. Be aware of your surroundings and those surrounding you. Things seem odd? They probably are. Alert your family members to be aware of their surroundings. Know whom to call and where to report concerns of 'odd' people or 'strange' circumstances at work or at home. While on campus, do not allow others to follow you into animal facilities, without them also scanning their Duke ID card. If people ask about your research, be cautious in describing locations or identifying persons in the laboratory. You may refer them to the animal program web site if they wish to learn about animal based research.

For more information on security measures you can take at Duke, please contact Drs. John Norton (684-4204) or Ron Banks (684-4744). For specific reports of criminal activity, contact the Duke Police. For more information on recent animal rights extremism nationwide, please visit the Foundation for Biomedical Research at [www.fbresearch.org](http://www.fbresearch.org).



## OAWA's Brown Bag Seminar

Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Noon – 1 p.m.

Bryan Research Building: Room 103

Dr. Ron Banks

Director of the Office of Animal Welfare  
Assurance will be presenting:

## Factors Affecting Research Results: Part 2:

The Duke Office of Animal Welfare Assurance will provide a presentation discussing external factors which can complicate research outcomes. This is Part II of a two part series. Part I focused on such things as strain-specific characteristics which may modulate outcomes, routine animal management and research outcomes, the importance of the consistent environment and how environmental changes affect research outcomes. In Part II, Dr. Banks will discuss how various disease states may impact research outcomes, and observations lab staff can make to help with proper management and research outcomes. Potential solutions will be discussed, such as measures to protect your research while optimizing the success of your experiments on campus.

The presentation will be on **Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from noon to 1 p.m.**

The session will be held in room **103 of the Bryan Research Building**, located at 421 Research Drive, on Duke University's West Campus.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a lunch. OAWA will provide drinks and desserts.

Please plan on arriving prior to noon in order to get refreshments, sign in, and be seated.

For those who will be coming from off campus, driving directions and parking information can be found at the following link: <http://neuro.duke.edu/Links/map.htm>

**This session will count for 1 CEU of AALAS In-house Training Credit**