
IACUC NEWSLETTER – December 2016

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Year-End Submissions

IACUC will cease all activities during the designated University Holiday Closure period of **December 23, 2016** through **January 2, 2017**. Processing of proposals not approved prior to December 23rd and any submitted during closure will resume on **January 3, 2017**.

In the absence of IACUC approval-

- No work on new proposals or amendment requests may be initiated.
- New personnel may not begin working on project(s).
- All work on expiring/expired protocols must cease.

Friendly Reminders

1. **When the veterinarian** or IACUC reviewers request changes to a proposal or amendment under review, please remember to add those changes to the revised protocol form, which should then be submitted to IRBNet at the same time as your response letter.
2. **The Not for Cause (NFC) audit program** is underway. Below is a synopsis of what to expect. Please contact the Office of Research Compliance if you have questions.

- a. **What is an NFC audit?** On September 15, 2016 the IACUC approved the procedure for conducting NFC quality assurance audits, often referred to as post approval monitoring.
 - b. **What is the purpose of this program?** The program is intended to facilitate a dialogue with the Investigator to improve the animal care and use program. Audits will focus on identification and remediation of potential problems.
 - c. **Audit seems like a scary word, should I be concerned?** If you are contacted it does not mean anything is wrong and there is no need for concern, these audits are routine.
 - d. **Why was my protocol selected?** Certain protocols are more likely to be selected for audit if they involve painful or invasive procedures, risks to subjects or personnel or are externally funded.
3. **Investigators are responsible** for ensuring that all individuals under their supervision who will be working with animals participate in the Animal Handler Health and Safety Program. *At a minimum, all individuals working with animals must conduct the risk assessment procedure and provide the submission page of the assessment to the ORC.* The program is intended to provide animal handlers with the information needed to make an informed decision about their participation in animal research, use of appropriate protective equipment and need to participate in medical surveillance. Please contact the Office of Research Compliance at 774-1152 to request a risk assessment form. More information on animal-related health risks, including the handout "[Preventing Animal Allergy](#)", can be found on the [ORC website](#).

New Policy and SOP Alert!

The following policies, guidelines and/or SOP's have recently been approved by the IACUC-

- Animal Acquisition Policy
- SOP – Animal Facility Security Concerns
- SOP – Continuity of Care

The following forms related to the acquisition of animals were also recently approved–

- CMU Approved-Vendors Animal Acquisition Form
- CMU Non-Routine Vendor Acquisition Form
- CMU In-House Animal Acquisition Form

Approved policies, guidelines and SOP's can be found on the ORC website [here](#).

IACUC forms can be found by visiting the [IRBNet](#) website.

Did You Know...?

Approved protocols must be accessible to all personnel named as participants in the activity. You may keep paper versions in your lab, share the protocol through IRBNet.org or provide the protocol electronically.

Providing access allows all participants to—

- Confirm that they are listed on the protocol
- Ensure they are performing procedures as described in the approved protocol
- Demonstrate their knowledge of the study during IACUC facility inspections not-for-cause audits

AALAS Grants for Laboratory Animal Science (GLAS) Program

- **Grant applications** are available online for the AALAS Grants for Laboratory Animal Science (GLAS) program. The GLAS program provides two types of competitive one-year research grants in laboratory animal science: Standard Grant for up to \$50,000 and the Small Grant for up to \$7,500.
- The GLAS program contributes to the AALAS mission to advance responsible laboratory animal care and use to benefit people and animals. The AALAS Scientific Advisory Committee oversees the GLAS program and selects the applications to be funded each year. Applicants may be any AALAS member experienced with the care and use of laboratory animals, independent of their education or scientific background. Collaboration with the broader scientific community is encouraged, and co-investigators are exempt from the AALAS membership requirement. There is no geographical restriction with regard to the investigators or the institution; international submissions are welcome.
- Details about the GLAS program, application instructions, and an application tutorial may be viewed [here](#).

Fun Fact

Mice can sing! The tale (no pun intended) begins in Detroit circa 1925 when J. L. Clark discovers a singing mouse in his house. The mouse is eventually given to scientists at the University of Michigan where it is bred with lab mice. No word on whether they obtained IACUC approval. The offspring also sang but not near as well as Pops. 1 published article later (1932) interest in the behavior fades. Fast forward to 2010. Scientists discover male mice

use song to woo female mice. Then, in 2015, it is determined that female mice are just as capable of crooning a love song. If they find the male appealing, that is!

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This Newsletter is produced by the Office of Research Compliance.
Comments and suggestions are welcome and can be sent to IACUC_ADMIN@cmich.edu

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