CMU | CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY | *Office of* Research Compliance

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

IACUC NEWSLETTER – March 2016

- IRBNet and CITI: Linking Accounts and Uploading Training
- NIH Gender Balance Requirements
- Guideline and Policy Development
- Spring 2016 Quality Assurance Efforts

IRBNet and CITI: Linking Accounts and Uploading Training

In order to connect your CITI account to your IRBNet account, you must first obtain your CITI Member ID.

1. Enter username and password at www.citiprogram.org/.
2. Your CITI Member ID may be viewed next to your name in the upper right corner of your screen after you have logged in (e.g. John Smith ID: 12345678)

Once you have obtained and recorded your CITI Member ID, you may link your account to IRBNet by completing the following steps.

1. Enter username and password at www.irbnet.org/.
2. Click on "User Profile" in the upper right corner after logged in.
3. Scroll to the "External Accounts" section of the page and click on "Add an External Account."
4. Open the dropdown menu next to "Account Type" and choose "CITI Training Program."
5. Enter your CITI Member ID in the space provided next to "CITI Member ID" and click "Continue."

6. Check the email associated with IRBNet for a confirmation email, confirming that you would like to link the two accounts. Confirm that you would like to do so.

Once the two accounts are linked, you may check on your training any time by clicking on "User Profile." This will also let you know when your CITI Program modules are due for renewal.

Training opportunities for IRBnet are available through the Office of Research Compliance, please contact us if interested IACUC_ADMIN@cmich.edu or 989-774-7313

NIH Gender Balance Requirements

The National Institutes of Health announced several updates during 2015 that investigators will want to pay close attention to when submitting applications. Links to two key announcements are below.

NIH Notice NOT-OD-15-102, June 9, 2015: Consideration of Sex as a Biological Variable in NIH-funded Research:grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/

"NIH expects that sex as a biological variable will be factored into research designs, analyses, and reporting in vertebrate animal and human studies. Strong justification from the scientific literature, preliminary data, or other relevant considerations must be provided for applications proposing to study only one sex."
NIH Notice NOT-OD-15-103, June 9, 2015: Enhancing Reproducibility through Rigor and Transparency: grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-103.html

"These new instructions and revised review criteria will focus on four areas deemed important for enhancing rigor and transparency: 1) the scientific premise of the proposed research, 2) rigorous experimental design for robust and unbiased results, 3) consideration of relevant biological variables, and 4) authentication of key biological and/or chemical resources. "

Guideline and Policy Development

The IACUC is in the process of drafting and revising policies and guidelines. A community comment period will be established for each policy or guideline as they are drafted. Comment periods will be communicated through this newsletter, as well as emails generated from the IACUC Blackboard site for review.

The following policy was approved and implemented on **December 10, 2015**:

- Minimum Standards for Housing Aquatic Vertebrate Species, Policy P-0016-01

The following policies were approved on **February 18, 2016**:

- Minimally Required Personal Protective Equipment for Animal Care and Use (new)
- Animal Transportation Guidelines (new)

These approved policies are now available on the Office of Research Compliance website.

Other policy drafts and revisions underway:

- Animal Handler Occupational Health and Safety Program (revision)
  - Comment period anticipated to run week of March 15-22
- Policy for Oversight of Controlled Substances in Research (new)
  - IACUC Policy on Drug Storage and Control will also be revised
- Food and Water Restriction and Manipulation in Research Animals, Weight Loss and Gain Guidelines (revision)
  - Comment period weed of March 21 or 28
- Policy on the Acquisition of Animals (revision)
  - Comment period week of March 21 or 28

Spring 2016 Quality Assurance Efforts

Quality assurance meetings (also referred to as post approval monitoring) will be initiated this spring. In conducting these meetings, we hope to accomplish the following:

- An opportunity for communication and education regarding changes in policies or regulations and expectations of the IACUC.
- Remediation of potential issues preemptively or while they are minor.
    - not interested in playing "gotcha"
    - Protect animal subjects from harm
    - Protect the institution from risks (legal, reputation, etc.)
    - Protect the investigator from risks
- Demonstrate effective oversight
- Provide feedback to the IACUC to address issues (Quality Improvement) that investigators may be having with the review or oversight process.

Jonathan Kelty, IACUC Chair, x1382, jon.kelty@cmich.edu
Audrey Brown, IACUC Coordinator, x7313, audrey.l.brown@cmich.edu
Tiffany Davidson, Administrative Secretary, x1152, tiffany.j.davidson@cmich.edu
Joe Crossno, Compliance Analyst, x3748, joseph.crossno@cmich.edu
Robert Bienkowski, Director, Research Compliance, x3477, robert.bienkowski@cmich.edu

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