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**IACUC NEWSLETTER – March 2017**

- [Announcements](#)
- [Friendly Reminders](#)
- [Did You Know ...?](#)
- [CITI News](#)
- [Online Compounding Pharmacy](#)
- [Training Resources](#)
- [Fun Rat Facts](#)
- [IACUC Staff](#)

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**Announcements**

1. **Addition to veterinary staff:** Effective August 2016, [Dr. Kathleen Cannady](#) has joined our animal care and use program as the back up to our attending veterinarian [Dr. Robert Werner](#). Dr. Werner and Dr. Cannady will be sharing animal care responsibilities and will alternate their visits to campus. Please feel free to contact either of them with protocol or animal care related questions.
2. **Invitation to investigators to present at future IACUC meetings:** In an effort to get to know the research interests of the investigators whose animal use protocols they review, the IACUC would like to invite Investigators who would be interested in presenting a brief (15-20 minutes) overview of their research (or area of research expertise) at upcoming IACUC meetings. If you are willing to share your research and are able to attend a meeting on the third Thursday of an upcoming month between noon and 2pm, please contact the [Office of Research Compliance](#) or the [IACUC Chair](#).
3. **New Policy: Oversight of Controlled Substances in Research:** The CMU Policy “Oversight of Controlled Substances in Research” was approved and signed by University President George Ross effective December 15, 2016. In order to assist the Office of Research Compliance in helping investigators comply with Federal and State regulations, all investigators who have registrations to use controlled substances in their research at CMU must contact the [Office of Research Compliance](#)

4. **Continuing Review** – Federal laws, regulations and policies require an IACUC to provide continued oversight of approved animal activities. To fulfil this responsibility, the IACUC has approved the use of a brief form that investigators will be asked to complete on a yearly basis. The IACUC Coordinator will send out a copy of the form approximately 1 month before the yearly anniversary date of an approved protocol. For those interested in a sneak preview of the form, visit the IACUC's Forms and Templates library on the [IRBNet.org](http://IRBNet.org) website.  
In a nutshell, the information provided by an investigator will assist the IACUC in ensuring that the university's Animal Care and Use Program remains compliant with the [Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals](#), the [PHS Policy](#), and, where applicable, the [Animal Welfare Act and Regulations](#).
5. **Investigator feedback requested:** The [IACUC](#) and Office of Research Compliance would like know what information you would like to see on their websites. We would like to provide information that is helpful and also easy to access, so please also let us know if there's information already there which was difficult to find or not where you thought it should be.

### Friendly Reminders

1. **Investigators are responsible for the content of their protocols:** Please use caution when cutting and pasting from an old document while drafting a new animal use protocol. Inadvertently including irrelevant or incomplete information can lead to additional questions during the review process which can be frustrating for both reviewers and investigators. Including information that does not reflect what you intend to do can also inadvertently lead to non-compliance.
2. **Remember to submit an updated protocol form when making changes to your protocol:** When the veterinarian or IACUC reviewers request changes be made to a proposal or amendment under review, please remember to add those changes to the protocol form which should then be submitted to IRBNet at the same time as your response letter.
3. **Animal Handler Risk Assessment Reminder:** 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 go to the ORC web page for more information including the handout "[preventing animal allergy](#)". To obtain the risk self-assessment document, contact the [Office of Research Compliance](#). To obtain the Handler Risk Assessment Standard Operating Procedure Animal Handler Health and

Safety Program: Risk Assessment Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), please contact the [Office of Research Compliance](#),

4. **Protocol Submissions** - All IRBNet packages must be signed by the Principal Investigator (PI) and co-PI's, if applicable. By signing a package, each signatory indicates the information contained in the package is accurate and complete, to the best of their knowledge, and that the study has been designed in accordance with all applicable federal and institutional requirements. Signing a package replaces a handwritten signature previously provided on the (hardcopy) assurance page. For more information, contact the [IACUC Coordinator](#) or visit the [ORC website](#).

#### **Did You Know ...?**

1. **Housing animals** in a laboratory for more than 12 hours requires IACUC approval to ensure the housing area meets the requirements of the guide. Please provide details in the initial application or in an amendment form in the case of a previously approved protocol. Include the reason(s) for housing animals in the lab, the duration, a set of animal husbandry standard operating procedure(s) and the parties responsible for performing animal care. An inspection must also be carried out by the IACUC prior to the animals being moved into the lab.

#### **CITI News**

1. **CITI** now offers [Completion Certificates](#) in addition to Completion Reports. Learn more about these documents by clicking on the underlined text above.

#### **Online Compounding Pharmacy**

1. [ZooPharm](#) is a specialized veterinary compounding pharmacy offering custom compound analgesics, sedatives, their antagonists, and other unique drugs for use in veterinary medicine. These include extended and sustained release formulations. As a specialized compounding pharmacy, all ZooPharm orders require a prescription from a licensed veterinarian.

#### **Training Resources**

1. [Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare](#)
2. [Mouse & Rat Humane Restraint and Experimental Techniques](#)
3. [Training in Survival Rodent Surgery](#)
4. [Training in Basic Biomethodology for Laboratory Mice](#)
5. [Training in Basic Biomethodology for Laboratory Rats](#)

6. National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research NCR3 has released a new video tutorial ~ [Mouse Handling Made Easier](#) ~ that mouse users may find useful.

### **Fun Rats Facts**

1. Rat teeth can exert 24,000 pounds per square inch. They can chew through glass, brick, cinder blocks, aluminum, even ½-inch thick sheet metal.
2. They have terrible vision and are colorblind.
3. Rats don't have gallbladders or tonsils, but they do have belly buttons.
4. A rat can go without water longer than a camel.
5. Most rats are right-handed.
6. Their amazing memories, rapid learning ability, curiosity, hardiness and friendliness make them ideal for research and service to humans, including search and rescue!

### **IACUC Staff**

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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](mailto:IACUC_ADMIN@cmich.edu)

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