

### **AAALAC International Site Visit at Emory University, 2023**

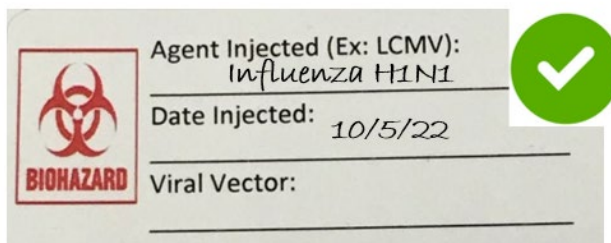
The AAALAC International site visit of the animal care and use program at Emory University will be conducted by a team of peers during the first third of 2023. While much of the focus will be on DAR and IACUC, laboratories will be visited as well, particularly those where surgery and other experimental procedures are done on animals or where animals are held.


AAALAC International was founded in 1966 as a private organization providing peer review of research programs using animal models. Emory University has been continuously accredited by AAALAC dating to 1992. The value of accreditation is in providing assurance both internally, to our scientists and the administration, as well as externally, to the public and funding sources, that Emory meets the highest standards of the care and research use of animals.

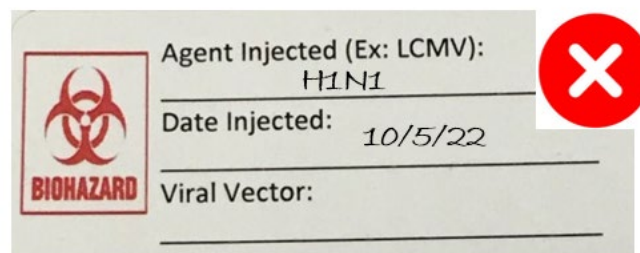
#### **Here are tips to facilitate a successful site visit outcome for Emory:**


- Review your **IACUC-approved protocol** to ensure familiarity with the experiments and all associated procedures.
  - Confirm that your role and/or procedure assignment is current and completion of training required as indicated in the [Education and Training Policy](#). If you need any training or refreshers, please contact us by emailing dartrn@emory.edu
  - Only experiments and procedures approved in the IACUC protocol should be conducted.
- Review **IACUC policies** as they pertain to your approved protocol. Go to [Policies, Guidelines, Exemptions | Emory University | Atlanta GA](#). Any may be relevant, but particular attention should be paid to:
  - Euthanasia
  - Anesthesia and Analgesia
  - Aseptic Survival Surgery in Rodents (see below for record requirements)
  - Expired materials
  - Injectable agents
  - Non-pharmaceutical grade drugs
  - Sanitation of research equipment
- Surgical and post-operative monitoring requirements
  - A cage card record and lab log record are required. Examples can be found at [303 - Aseptic Survival Surgery in Rodents \(emory.edu\)](#).
  - Animals must be monitored for the time period required in the protocol. This time is a minimum of 3 days (day of surgery = day 0). The surgery cage card remains on the cage during this time.
  - Write the surgery type and date on the permanent cage card.
  - Surgery logs, post-operative monitoring, and other records required by the IACUC should be available upon request for review by the site visitors.
- The expiration dates of drugs, fluids, sutures and other consumable materials that may be used in association with animals should be routinely monitored whether kept in the lab or in the DAR facilities. Where the IACUC has not granted a specific exemption, all expired items should be discarded or labeled as expired.
- All items in the laboratory, such as fluids dispensed from their original container, should be clearly labeled as to contents and, where applicable, with an expiration date. All controlled drugs should be kept in a locked container meeting requirements for controlled drug storage and supported by accurate records of usage.
  - Ensure that all logs are completed, and drugs are stored and labelled as required. We encourage investigators to complete the corresponding self-inspection checklists: [Form 1: Controlled Substances Self-Inspection \(DOCX\)](#) and/or [Dangerous Drugs Self-Inspection \(DOCX\)](#)
  - See FAQ from the Research Integrity Office: <https://rcra.emory.edu/oric/controlled-substances/faq-controlledsubstance.html>

- Be familiar with the following alerts and IACUC Exemption
  - [Using Buprenorphine HCl and Buprenorphine SR in Mice and Rats](#)
  - [Drug Alert for Injectable substances used in animals with limited number of punctures and expiration date](#)
  - [Exemption for using single-dose non-bacteriostatic sterile injectable saline or water](#)
- Isoflurane gas anesthetic vaporizer maintenance and calibration must comply with IACUC policy “Anesthesia Vaporizer Preventative Maintenance and Servicing”. Professional servicing is required every 3 years and an annual assessment must be done by the lab. [Microsoft Word - 368 - Gas Anesthesia Vaporizer Maintenance APPROVED \(emory.edu\)](#).
- If using CO<sub>2</sub> inhalation for euthanasia, the system must include a flowmeter and have a posted SOP providing instructions for the use of this method and equipment. **CO<sub>2</sub> recommended fill rates have changed since the last AAALAC site visit**; please refer to [Template for PI CO<sub>2</sub> Euthanasia](#) (located in SharePoint, log in with your Emory ID and password) and consult with a DAR veterinarian if guidance is needed to update the lab’s system.
- Any food or treats for the animals kept in the laboratory should be stored in a closed container with a tight-fitting lid labeled with the contents and expiration date.
- Know how to access Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for each chemical and drug used or kept in the lab via: [Dashboard | MSDOnline \(ehs.com\)](#).
- Please ensure that you have completed the occupational health questionnaire located at the IACUC web site at [Annual OHS Screening | Emory University | Atlanta GA](#) within the past 12 months. It is quick and easy.
- Documentation of an injury or exposure, whether trivial or non-trivial, is done via the PeopleSoft system. Log onto the "[PeopleSoft: HR](#)" site using your Emory network ID and password, select the "Self Service" folder and then choose the "Workplace Health" tile and proceed.
- Areas where animals are used should be kept clean and uncluttered, such as for rodent surgery.
- Animals should not be housed or kept in laboratories (or outside of the animal research facility) without the knowledge and permission of the IACUC.
- **Proper Labelling of Biohazard Caging:** Biohazardous animal cages (ABLS2/3) must be labelled so that anyone who accesses the cages is aware of the pathogen being used in each biohazard cage. The label must be legible and contain the common or scientific name of the pathogen. Labelling with only the specific strain name is not acceptable.




 Agent Injected (Ex: LCMV):  
*Influenza H1N1*  
 Date Injected: *10/5/22*  
 Viral Vector: \_\_\_\_\_




 Agent Injected (Ex: LCMV):  
*H1N1*  
 Date Injected: *10/5/22*  
 Viral Vector: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions or would benefit from other assistance, please call 7-3248 and ask to speak with the DAR veterinarian responsible for your building or send an email to [darcust@emory.edu](mailto:darcust@emory.edu).