Emory IACUC Newsletter

October 11, 2023

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IACUC Policy Updates and other Policies

The IACUC updated the following policies

- Protocol Review and Approval
- The IACUC Policy 304 Tumor Burden Scoring Policy was updated on 3/15/2023: This update includes NEW recordkeeping requirements, new scoring scales, and resources for scoring tumor burden. See March MOA

RCRA, IACUC and DAR worked on a NEW policy for recording research activities involving animals. This policy includes an attestation that the Principal Investigator needs to complete and route for approval by the EU DAR Attending Veterinarian and the AVP for RCRA. We acknowledge the support and feedback provided by the Emory Primate Center.

Please sign the Post Approval Attestation of Responsibilities Reminder

To decrease noncompliance events related to personnel NOT READING the approved protocols and modifications, the IACUC charged the IACUC Office with sending out a reminder of the responsibilities to the PI and each member of the research team. This reminder or attestation is sent to research teams receiving approval letters for new protocols and triennial renewals. This document is sent using DocuSign. Each member of the research team is tagged for signing the document. The completed version returns to each member for your records.

TAKE NOTE: The exemption for using single-dose non-bacteriostatic sterile injectable saline or water was terminated on 9/3/2023

The IACUC voted to terminate the Exemption for using single-dose non-bacteriostatic sterile injectable saline or water on September 6, 2023. Please contact your DAR unit if you have any questions.

DAR Training and OHS Questionnaire are moving to Brainier

- Emory University has rolled out a new learning management tool called Brainier.
- The OHS Questionnaire for Non-EPC personnel included in IACUC protocols has moved to Brainier.

Starting October 1st, you will receive a reminder that you are due for your annual OHS Questionnaire for Animal Handlers. Follow the instructions to complete the questionnaire.

OHS clearance for Non-EPC New personnel: you will be contacted by Employee Health after you sign-in into eIACUC and request the AALAS account.

OHS clearance for Non-EPC Undergraduate students and Sponsored Accounts: https://emory.sharepoint.com/sites/eIACUC/SitePages/OHS-Form.aspx > log in with your Emory ID and Password>Click Download a blank OHS Animal Handler Questionnaire>Complete form>Click Gray Box>Outlook email opens with attachment>Add immunization records>Click Send (No CCs)
Do you have a Just-In-Time submission?

NOT-OD-10-128 defines the “Just-In-Time” process. Congruency is not defined as an exact match. Components to be compared include the species, animal numbers, the research field and the procedures to be performed.

- Contact the IACUC Office at iacuc@emory.edu as soon as you know that you have received a JIT request and it involves work with animal subjects.

Ask RCRA – October 19, 2023 @ 12 noon

When: Thursday, October 19th | Time: 12:00pm to 1:00pm
Registration: https://emory.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gZK1sYOHSPCETfJR5DuwYQ
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Do you know if you have Compassion Fatigue?

Take one of the self-assessments: https://www.na3rsc.org/compassion-fatigue/self-assessment/
To learn more about Compassion Fatigue click HERE

eIACUC software – Issues with the Upgrade

The eIACUC software was upgraded at the end of August 2023. The smartform logic did not change. However, there are new required fields which will trigger a validation error when submitting an amendment or triennial, or continuing review (formerly known as Annual Review)

You can use the JOB AID assembled to resolve the validation error for the euthanasia procedure

Join us every Friday from 12 noon to 2 pm in our Open Line Zoom room if you need assistance to resolve these errors. No appointment needed, just follow this link: https://emory.zoom.us/j/96317076785

Updated Template for the Use of Flowmeters for Mouse and Rat CO2 Euthanasia for SOM Researchers -INCLUDES training dates

SOM DAR provided the template “Use of Flowmeters for Mouse and Rat CO2 euthanasia and we have updated the template to include the name of individuals conducting the procedure and the date the DAR training was completed. The first page should be kept with the IACUC protocol binder and the second page “Instructions for CO2 euthanasia” should be posted on your lab space where the procedure is done. Download HERE

Have you read the most recent version of your approved IACUC protocol?

We continue to identify inspection findings related to personnel doing procedures in animal subjects who:
- have not read the protocol including the procedure to be done.
- have not completed the post-approval training
- are not familiar with the analgesic regime/monitoring required for the procedure (i.e tumor scoring, weight, etc)
- review the “ACTIVE” version of the standard procedures. Contact iacuc@emory.edu if you find that the standard procedure says “ARCHIVED”

Resources for Researchers

Resources for researchers can be found here: https://rcra.emory.edu/iacuc/researcher_tools.html
The IACUC Office and the Subcommittee charged with reviewing the Aseptic Survival Surgery Policy assembled an Example for how to fill out the Surgery Log.
Additional resources can be found in the eIACUC SharePoint wiki site: https://emory.sharepoint.com/sites/eIACUC - log in with your net ID and password

IACUC Site Inspections

OLAW and USDA require the IACUC to inspect animal care and use facilities every six months. The semiannual Site inspections cycle started 6/1/2023 and it will run through 11/30/2023. The IACUC Office offered a Lunch & Learn hybrid session for the IACUC community on how to prepare for the site inspections. The recording and slides are available in the eIACUC wiki page: HERE The current schedule can be found HERE.

Contact us

Email: IACUC@emory.edu  |  Phone (404) 712-0734  |  Open Line: Friday 12 noon – 2pm
Staff contact information can be found on our About page

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