Brief on Justification for Using Animals and Justification for using Species – prepared by the Emory IACUC Office

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Regulatory Requirements – The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, 8th Ed.

1. OLAW

- The Guide page 25 ... The following topics should be considered in the preparation of the protocol by the researcher and its review by the IACUC... justification of the species and number of animals proposed; whenever possible, the number of animals and experimental group sizes should be statistically justified

2. Animal Welfare Act – “why using animals at all”

USDA regs 2.31 states: A rationale for involving animals, and for the appropriateness of the species and numbers of animals to be used.

Justification for Using Animals and Justification for using Species in eIACUC

Justification for using animals (Q3) – why are you using animals at all instead of using computer modeling, in vitro techniques, or other alternatives

Justification for using this species (Q5) – what is unique about the species that you are proposing to accomplish the specific aims of the proposal

Example Justification for using animals in eIACUC – Question 3

3. *Provide the rationale for using animals in this protocol:
Animal models are required to study complex traits such as the genetic basis for tumor development, progression and metastasis. This cannot be completely mimicked with in-vitro systems

Example Justification for using this species – Question 5

5. *Justify why each proposed species was chosen for this protocol:
Mouse is the species of choice for these experiments since the complex genotypically engineered animals we need for these experiments are available in the mouse. In addition the mouse as a general model system has proven productive for these proof of principle studies