Faculty, staff and students with research specific animal or animal tissue exposure are required to enroll in the Occupational Health Program by completing the online Occupational Health Registry.

An annual review of the information provided is important to ensure proper management. Beginning December 1st, personnel added to Animal Use Protocols or listed on Annual Reviews will be checked to confirm that the information in the Occupational Health Registry has been reviewed. This could cause a delay in IACUC review and approval if personnel have not reviewed their registry information within the last year. Information is provided via the Protocol Lookup of the date of last completion or if a record has expired.

ULAR Animal Health Monitoring System

University Laboratory Animal Resources (ULAR) uses a color coded acetate system in order to easily and quickly identify animal health problems or exceptions to usual animal care procedures.

A RED film will indicate that an Animal Observation Report (AOR) has been submitted and will be placed by the person submitting the AOR. In the event of an emergency, the attending veterinarian or Animal Health Technician (LAHT) will be notified. The LAHT or clinical veterinarian will remove the red acetate if no follow-up/treatment is needed or replace it with a blue one when treatment is started.

A BLUE film will be placed by the treating clinician or LAHT when they are treating or monitoring an animal. A label describing the condition being treated or noting the problem that is being addressed is placed on the blue acetate. The blue film will be removed by the clinician or LAHT when the treatment or monitoring is completed and/or problem has been resolved.

A YELLOW film will be placed by the ULAR staff to indicate a special husbandry procedure in effect. (i.e. breeding diet, Baytril water, exemption to primate enrichment, water bottle request by PI, and/or special diet) when ULAR staff is responsible for providing that service. A white tape strip or label will be added to the yellow acetate to indicate the special procedure in effect. ULAR staff will remove the yellow film when the special procedure ends.
New ULAR / Veterinary Biosciences Faculty

Krista La Perle, DVM, PhD, DACVP has recently joined the faculty at The Ohio State University to direct the Comparative Pathology & Mouse Phenotyping Shared Resource and provide veterinary pathology support to our research programs utilizing animal models. Dr. La Perle has a dual appointment with the Department of Veterinary Biosciences and University Laboratory Animal Resources (ULAR). She had previously served as the Director of the Tri-Institutional Laboratory of Comparative Pathology for Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Weill Cornell Medical College and Rockefeller University in New York where she gained a reputation as an outstanding mouse pathologist. Her research interests are pathology of genetically modified animals and animal models of thyroid cancer and disease. We are very excited to have Dr. La Perle’s pathology expertise available to our OSU research community. If you are interested in obtaining veterinary pathology support for your research, please feel free to contact Dr. La Perle at la-perle.1@osu.edu.

IACUC Semi-Annual Facility Inspections

The IACUC Semi-annual inspection of all the institution’s animal facilities is underway. This includes all ULAR vivarium space and individual PI lab space where animals are housed or surgeries are conducted. These inspections began in November and will continue through December with inspection teams consisting of at least two IACUC members. Please take this opportunity to review your standard laboratory practices to ensure that the lab is properly maintained. Please be sure the laboratory is neat and tidy and is free from debris and clutter. All drugs used with animals should be appropriately stored and within the expiration date. Biohazard signs should be posted on refrigerators and freezers used for carcass storage. Be prepared to answer questions regarding the animal work being conducted in the laboratory. The IACUC may ask questions about how surgeries are performed, how animals are euthanized, how personnel are trained, etc.

The facilities listed below will be inspected in December. Actual dates are currently being scheduled. Laboratories included on the inspection list are typically notified approximately one week before the inspection.

**December:** Biomedical Research Tower, Polaris facility, LAC, Goss Laboratory, Sisson Hall, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Davis Heart and Lung Research Institute, Riffe Building, Parks Hall, BSL3 areas, OSU Swine farm and the Wright Center of Innovation imaging facility.

Office of Research & ULAR to Analyze Per Diem Rates

This spring, the Office of Research in conjunction with ULAR will undertake a complete analysis of per diem rates. In addition to determining the actual cost of animal care for the various species, a comparison will also be made to OSU’s peer public institutions to determine how we stack up in this regard. Results of this analysis will be communicated to the research community and any significant changes in per diem rates (if needed) would be done in a phased fashion.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the use of transgenic animals needs to be registered with the Institutional Biosafety Committee? The new registry form (called “Application for Rodent Gene Transfer”) is available at: http://orrp.osu.edu/ibc/forms/initialreview.cfm

Did You Know?

Did you know that an inspector from USDA has conducted unannounced inspections of OSU facilities eight times in 2008? Two visits involved reviewing specific protocol files in the ORRP IACUC office.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the ULAR animal care staff participate in continuing education on a regular basis to improve the service that is provided to the OSU research community? The American Association of Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) provides certification to animal care staff who demonstrate through examination, a knowledge base relevant to their career. This certification training is also open to any research staff member at OSU. Please contact Dr. Judy Hickman-Davis at hickman-davis.2@osu.edu for further information.

Did You Know?

Did you know that new therapeutic and experimental agents being listed on IACUC protocols must be approved by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety? For more information, you can contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety by calling 292-1284.

Did You Know?

Did you know that changes to protocols, no matter how small, must be written in an amendment and submitted to the IACUC for approval PRIOR to implementation?