IACUC Newsletter

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Resources
IACUC Newsletter
Online: http://orrp.osu.edu/iacuc/index.cfm

IACUC Forms:
http://orrp.osu.edu/iacuc/forms/

Office of Responsible
Research Practices:
http://orrp.osu.edu/

University Laboratory
Animal Resources:
http://ular.osu.edu/

IBC Requirements for Transgenic Rodents
The Ohio State University receives funding from the National Institutes of Health. As such, the OSU research community must comply with The NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules (NIH Guidelines: Section III-E-3, Section III-F-6; Appendix C-VI). Consequently, the purchase or generation of transgenic rodents requires registration / protocol submission to the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC). The protocol form (Application for Rodent Gene Transfer) is available in the form section of the IBC website: http://orrp.osu.edu/ibc/forms/initialreview.cfm. All Animal Use Protocols or Amendments reviewed by the IACUC after March 1, 2008 will include verification of Transgenic Rodent IBC compliance. Principal Investigators will be informed of the need to submit the appropriate application at the time of the IACUC submission. Questions and assistance are available by contacting, Cecil Smith, Chair, Institutional Biosafety Committee (292-0220).

Animal Welfare Workshops Coming to OSU
On June 4th, 2008, The Ohio State University is co-sponsoring an IACUC-Advanced workshop at The Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center. The one day workshop developed by the Scientists Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW) will provide discussions and presentations on specific, complex topics that are relevant to IACUC functions, science, and appropriate animal welfare. A wide audience, including administrators, principal investigators, veterinarians, regulatory personnel, and laboratory animal care staff, can benefit from attending the workshop. All OSU faculty and staff qualify for the reduced Institutional member registration rate.

The following day, on June 5th 2008, the Ohio Scientific Education & Research Association (OSERA) will hold the 3rd OSERA Animal Forum also at The Blackwell Hotel and Conference Center. The Animal Forum provides a venue for the presentation and open group discussions of relevant, complex topics regarding animal science and welfare. The topics to be discussed include Ohio Pharmacy Board Relevant Issues, Pandemic Disease Disaster Plan, an Update on Animal Rights Activities Confronting Ohio facilities, and IACUC Oversight of Field Studies, among others.

Did You Know?
Did you know that the Animal Welfare Act requires that medical records for animals be maintained for 3 additional years after the termination of a project?
Look Out! Avoid These Inspection Pitfalls

Below are a few of the findings noted in investigator laboratories during the latest round of IACUC Semiannual Inspections. Please review these findings to ensure that these will not be observed in your lab.

- Drugs used as anesthetics, analgesics or for euthanasia in animals may not be used beyond their expiration date. Please keep a close eye on expiration dates for any agents used in animals.

- Pharmaceutical-grade drugs must be used whenever they are available, even for terminal procedures. Many experimental agents used in research are not available as pharmaceutical-grade compounds and may not have an expiration date. If a pharmaceutical-grade compound is not available, non-pharmaceutical-grade drugs may be used only after review and approval by the IACUC.

- All drugs must be clearly labeled with the name and date of expiration. If drugs are diluted, the secondary container must be labeled with names and expiration dates of the drug and diluent as well as the date of preparation. Solutions may be kept for a maximum of 30 days or until a precipitate forms and should always be prepared and stored in a sterile manner.

- When performing survival procedures, sterile techniques must be used. The IACUC guideline “Survival Surgery in Rodents” can provide further details on appropriate techniques. ULAR also provides training in surgical procedures to investigators and lab staff at no charge. For more information regarding ULAR training please contact ulartraining@osu.edu.

Updated ULAR Website

University Animal Laboratory Resources (ULAR) is happy to announce the launch of a completely redesigned website available at: http://www.ular.osu.edu/.

The ULAR website has been revamped to improve investigator usability. The goal was to present the information in a manner that was straightforward and easy to follow for new faculty and current investigators.

Descriptions of the ULAR vivariums including supervisory staff, contact emails, and phone numbers are provided. ULAR policies and services have been explained using step-by-step instruction for animal purchase or transfers and animal facility access. Veterinary involvement in the animal protocol submission process is also described including where to send animal use protocols for veterinary review.

The ULAR training link provides information on required training as well as the extensive opportunities for free training provided by ULAR staff. All ULAR forms and the ULAR per diem rates/fees can be downloaded directly. PDFs are available to explain the terminology commonly used by ULAR staff, such as ventilated vs. static caging and sterile, barrier, and conventional rooms.

Contact information for ULAR staff can be obtained by facility or by department. General email addresses are also available for those unsure where to direct questions. ULAR welcomes any feedback regarding the new site: ularinfo@osu.edu.