



## IACUC OVERSIGHT OF RESEARCH OR TEACHING ACTIVITIES USING PRIVATELY OWNED ANIMALS

### Overview/Purpose

The IACUC is responsible for reviewing the use of live vertebrate animals used in research, education, and testing at The Ohio State University. If the study is PHS or NSF funded, the institution must have an OLAW-approved Animal Welfare Assurance covering all performance sites and IACUC approval for the research activity. This policy further defines which activities involving the use of privately owned animals require Ohio State IACUC oversight.

While most privately-owned animals used in clinical research and teaching at The Ohio State University are species covered by the Animal Welfare Act (AWA), activities that are medically necessary for treatment or care of privately-owned animals are not considered a regulated activity and therefore do not require IACUC oversight. (Lab Animal, Volume 39, No. 3, March 2010). If the research involves human subjects requiring IRB approval and utilizes privately owned animals as part of the study, but the animals are not the subject of the research and are not manipulated as part of the research (e.g., strictly research on human subjects), then an IACUC protocol is not required.

### Definitions

**Privately owned:** owned by a private individual or organization rather than by the state or a public body

**Informed Consent form:** Agreement to allow animals owned privately to participate in research or teaching based on sufficient information (e.g., regarding possible risks and benefits of the activity) and adequate opportunity to consider voluntary participation.

### Requirements for IACUC protocol submission:

#### Use of privately owned animals at a private facility for OSU research or teaching

1. An IACUC protocol must be submitted and approved for any research or teaching activity which interacts directly with the animal, or which would alter the animal's environment.
2. The PI must provide information regarding the facilities to be used and include either a signed letter from the facility indicating that the research can be conducted at the facility or an example of the informed consent form that will be used (see SOP "[Collaborations with External Entities](#)" for more information.)
3. Unless specified in the protocol, the private facility remains responsible for care and welfare of animals they own.

## **Use of Privately owned animals at OSU facilities/University property**

1. An IACUC protocol (+/-amendments) must be submitted and approved for research or educational activities utilizing privately owned animals that are brought into OSU facilities or property for the purposes of a research project or educational opportunity for OSU students. Activities which are continuing education such as 4-H workshops, animal demonstrations, petting zoos, etc... in which owners and their animals attend educational activities and for which the owners maintain control of the animals, an IACUC protocol is not required. An email to [IACUCinfo@osu.edu](mailto:IACUCinfo@osu.edu) detailing the event and the involvement of animals is recommended. It is also recommended that any college or program work with Ohio State legal office to determine if other documents need to be completed before any animal is brought to campus.
2. Privately owned animals used in research projects may be subject to additional oversight at the College level in addition to IACUC oversight. The College of Veterinary Medicine has a Clinical Research Committee (CRC) which coordinates the use of privately owned animals for Veterinary Clinical Trials.
3. Activities using privately owned animals in studies which are considered part of standard veterinary care are exempt from IACUC oversight. Verification of exemption must be done by the IACUC to confirm exemption. A waiver letter will be issued if it is determined the activity is exempt from IACUC review.
4. The informed consent form, or a letter from the facility where activities will be conducted, must be uploaded into the eProtocol in the timeline section.

## **Ongoing IACUC oversight of activities involving privately owned animals on university property:**

1. The IACUC accepts the AVMA accreditation oversight for the CVM program in the clinical areas where privately owned animals are used. The IACUC has the discretion to require an inspection or request information related to IACUC approved activities utilizing privately owned animals in the CVM clinic areas.
2. For other university facilities/property which are not subject to an external accrediting agency, the IACUC will determine the need to inspect the locations on a case by case basis.
3. Investigators are expected to report the number of animals used for an IACUC protocol (see IACUC Policy on tracking animal numbers) using the eProtocol "Report Animal Number" activity for that protocol.
4. Adverse events occurring on IACUC approved protocols are to be reported to the IACUC in a timely fashion via an email to [IACUCinfo@osu.edu](mailto:IACUCinfo@osu.edu).

## **Ongoing IACUC oversight of activities involving privately owned animals on private property:**

1. The OSU IACUC does not inspect privately owned facilities where privately owned research or educational activities take place. MOUs indicating oversight responsibilities may be prepared for collaborations with other research facilities (see SOP Collaborations with External Entities for more information).
2. Investigators are expected to report the number of animals used for an IACUC protocol (see IACUC policy on tracking animal numbers) using the eProtocol "Report Animal Number" activity.
3. Adverse events occurring on IACUC approved protocols are to be reported to the IACUC in a timely fashion via an email to [IACUCinfo@osu.edu](mailto:IACUCinfo@osu.edu).

## Applicable Regulations

1. Animal Welfare Act (AWA, Public Law 89-544, 7 U.S.C.)
2. Animal Welfare Act Regulations (AWAR, 9 CFR, Chapter 1, Subchapter A)
3. Health Research Extension Act of 1985 and Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
4. National Research Council *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, Eighth Edition. National Academy of Sciences, 2011
5. The Federation of Animal Science Societies *Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching*

## Additional Information/Guidance

1. IACUC SOP “Collaborations with External Entities”
2. IACUC Policy “Vertebrate Animal Field Studies”
3. IACUC Policy “Tracking Animal Numbers”

## History of Revisions

**011-00** - new policy approved 10/2002

**011-01** – retitled, updated to provide details on coordination of review of activities with Veterinary Medical Center review process and to provide updated guidance on when an IACUC protocol is needed, approved 04/23/10

**011-02**- expanded to include all privately owned animals, not just animals used in clinical trials and new title. Approved 01/15/2016

**011-03** - updated coordination of activities with Veterinary Medical Center review process to clarify IACUC oversight.