

# IACUC NEWS

**Distributed by the UCSB IACUC to Assist UCSB Investigators**

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## I. Bullet Points (see below for details on items of interest)

- A. Protocol applications and modification procedures have been revised and simplified; always be sure to download the current protocol form from the UCSB IACUC website (<http://www.research.ucsb.edu/policies-forms/forms/#IACUC>). Older versions cannot be accepted.
- B. We have revised a number of IACUC Guidelines (listed below) based upon guidance provided by OLAW (NIH), the USDA, the FDA, and AAALAC. Please have all personnel review all of the applicable revisions for:
- Euthanasia of Laboratory Animals
  - Rodent Breeding
  - Humane Experimental Endpoints
  - Blood and Tissue Collection
  - Administration of Non-Pharmaceutical-Grade or Controlled Substances to Animals
  - Evaluation of Concerns of Mistreatment of Animals or IACUC Protocol Non-Compliance.
- C. Some PIs will be asked to submit their 3-year renewal applications a bit early again this year to avoid summer expirations or delayed IACUC review because of excessive workload.
- D. All persons performing surgery must attend a surgery instructional workshop and pass a surgery proficiency exam with the Attending Veterinarian. No one may perform unsupervised surgery until completing these two requirements.
- E. Animal use overages are a serious non-compliance; keep good track of your numbers and consult with the IACUC if necessary.
- F. Keep rigorous and precise records of all relevant activities, including training; “if you didn’t record it when it happened, it didn’t happen”.
- G. Be sure all personnel have access to, and are familiar with, your current protocol(s), subsequent modifications to those protocol(s), and Standard Operating Procedures (if applicable).
- H. The duration of each person’s Occupational Health and Safety approval, previously valid for 1 year only, can now extend up to 3 years based on a risk assessment by our OH&S physician.
- I. Most protocols no longer require annual reviews by the IACUC; they are only required for protocols using USDA regulated species or DOD supported projects.

## II. Details

- A. We have reviewed the entire protocol application and made significant revisions designed to simplify the application and reduce the workload required to complete it. Additional revisions will be likely as regulations are modified frequently and we identify additional ways to improve the form.
- B. Please have all relevant personnel read the appropriate guidelines.
- C. The IACUC does not meet regularly during the summer months. Therefore, if you have a protocol that expires during the summer and you wish to renew the protocol without a lapse, you will need to submit your renewal application during the academic year so that the IACUC can act on your application prior to expiration. You will receive a separate email telling you of the necessary submission date. Similarly, the number of renewal applications scheduled to be submitted during the upcoming spring quarter will exceed the IACUC's ability to review all of them in a timely fashion. Therefore, some Investigator's will be asked to submit their renewal applications a couple of months early. This will distribute the workload more evenly and enable the IACUC to review all applications prior to the end of the academic year, thereby avoiding protocol lapses.
- D. All UCSB personnel who need to perform animal surgery for the conduct of their work must consult with Dr. Garcia (our campus Attending Veterinarian) for training and a proficiency assessment. He can be reached at 893-7344 or [manuel.garcia@ucsb.edu](mailto:manuel.garcia@ucsb.edu).
- E. In the past, labs occasionally used more animals than were approved on their protocols. There is a 10% leeway on these numbers, since the numbers in the protocols are approximations. However, beyond 10%, this is a significant incident of non-compliance. Please watch your numbers very carefully.
- F. Accurate records of all relevant activities must be maintained for activities conducted in the ARC and approved satellite facilities. From the point of view of regulators, if it is not recorded, it did not occur. Please maintain good records to avoid issues.
- G. This is self-explanatory. All persons listed on a protocol roster must have access to, and understand, the approved protocol and all subsequent modifications. If a lab uses a Standard Operating Procedure to define husbandry practices at a satellite facility, all personnel should be familiar with this document as well.
- H. Be sure to submit your updated OHS form to the IACUC Office when you receive an e-mail reminder.
- I. Annual Reviews are no longer required for ~90% of UCSB protocols. They are only required for protocols that involve USDA regulated species, which includes rabbits, guinea pigs and wild mammals, but not standard laboratory rats and mice. They are also required for protocols that receive DOD funding.