

Policy 15.0 Requirement for Institutional Veterinary Consultation for Biomedical Sciences, Neurosciences, and Biotechnology-related Studies

IACUC Approved amendments 1/17/19, revised 4/29/19 approved 5/16/19

15.1.0 PURPOSE

In accordance with the Animal Welfare Regulations 2.31(d)(1) (iv)(B) and 2.33 (b)(4 and 5) the investigator must involve the Attending Veterinarian (AV)¹ in the planning of their vertebrate animal use protocols. In addition the 2002 OLAW Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Guidebook, 2nd edition (p. 56) and the National Research Council (NRC) handbook on Occupational Health and Safety in the Care and Use of Research Animals (p.20) state that “the veterinarian should discuss with investigators the design and implementation of study proposal and may provide written guidelines dealing with these and other issues. The staff veterinarian should be closely involved in planning and review of proposed animal uses.”

15.2.0 Mechanism for Preview by Attending Veterinarian and Animal Welfare and Biosafety

Concurrently submit the Policy 15 Form found at

<https://www.hawaii.edu/researchcompliance/veterinary-care> to the following offices before submitting a finalized protocol to the IACUC:

- Animal Welfare and Biosafety (AWBP): biosafe@hawaii.edu
- Animal and Veterinary Services (AVS): wongmich@hawaii.edu

NOTE: A minimum of 10 business days is required for the pre-review process.

15.3.0 Responsibility of Principal Investigators and Course Instructors

Confirmation of consultation is required to be documented in Section XII of the *IACUC Vertebrate Animal Use Protocol Form*.

- Animal use protocol applications will not be approved without confirmation that consultation has taken place. Protocols are considered independent of one another; therefore, the investigator is required to consult with the attending veterinarian on each protocol.
- Principal Investigators (PIs) are required to consult with the AV or designee on the following:
 - Original or full three year renewal protocol reviews
 - Protocol amendments which add the use of biohazards or chemical hazards, anesthesia and/or analgesia, surgery (survival and non-survival) or increase in the level of pain which the animal may experience
 - Annual renewal protocols that utilize USDA-covered species or DoD funding.

Note: Consultation is no longer required for annual renewals of protocols that do not utilize USDA covered species or DoD funding and/or do not include any of the amendments described above.

¹ "Attending Veterinarian"—the veterinarian responsible for the health and well-being of all laboratory animals used at the institution. (The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, 8th Edition). The AV or his or her veterinary designee, or the veterinary consultant named on the IACUC protocol may provide consultation to the investigator.

- The PI is responsible for assuring the funding agency and project sponsors that facilities and equipment are adequate for conducting the proposed research and/or teaching activity, and when applicable that the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) and EHSO have approved these facilities as appropriate to contain the proposed activity or work.

15.4.0 Responsibility of the Attending Veterinarian, EHSO and PIs

The AV is required to be closely involved in the planning and review of proposed animal use.

- The EHSO, IBC, and AV should specifically consider the potential for zoonotic diseases and other potential biohazards associated with the species involved. Specific matters and possible concerns may involve additional requirements for specialized training, preventative measures, or special animal health monitoring.
- Communication between the AV and the PI during the planning phase can address these matters and concerns before a proposal is presented to the IACUC for review and consideration for approval.

15.5.0 Scope of Consultation and Pre-review

- The veterinary consultation will cover but shall not be limited to discussion associated with study experimental design, the use of animal subjects, project personnel, study personnel training requirements, pain and distress, use of anesthesia, analgesia, immobilization, tranquilization, and euthanasia methods, adequate pre-procedural and post-procedural care, protocol-associated disease, disability, and other sequelae, surgical procedures, perioperative care, housing needs, preventative medicine (including quarantine, animal biosecurity, and surveillance), clinical disease, disability, or related health issues, requirements for special housing and/or equipment, duration of the study, and cost of housing (per diem) and care of the animal subjects during the study. The discussion may include special permitting requirements and/or other regulatory requirements.
- **The proposed use of biohazardous agents and/or hazardous materials in any study must be disclosed during the consultation period.** It is important that these matters have been discussed in their entirety with the UH Veterinarian's Office, AWBP, and EHSO prior to IACUC review and approval of the proposed research or teaching activity.

Prior to and during the writing of grant applications and/or vertebrate animal use protocol applications, review the information on the following websites:

- Animal Veterinarian Services (AVS)
<http://www.hawaii.edu/researchcompliance/university-veterinary-services>
- Environmental Health and Safety Office (EHSO)
<http://www.hawaii.edu/ehso/>
- John A. Burns School of Medicine EHSO
<http://jabsom.hawaii.edu/admin/afo/ehso/>
- Animal Welfare and Biosafety Program (AWBP)
<https://www.hawaii.edu/researchcompliance>