

University of Washington
December 16, 2021 IACUC Meeting Minutes

Members Present: AB JPVH KS MRK
 AC JS MB SRH
 AP KG ME SL
 CM KM MRB

Members Absent: AW DM
 GS
 MK
 JA
 JM

Opening Business

- The IACUC Chair called the meeting to order at 2:34pm.

Confirmation of a Quorum and Announcement

- Quorum was confirmed by ZR.

Approval of the IACUC Meeting Minutes

- The IACUC Chair called for the approval of the November 18, 2021 meeting minutes.

Motion was made and seconded: to approve the minutes as written.

Further Discussion: *discussion/changes/notes*

Vote: Approved with 15 members voting in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

Attending Veterinarian's/OAW Director's Report - KS

- IACUC metrics- see meeting documents
- As of December 27, 2021, annual reviews on USDA covered species protocols will no longer be required. This change will result in a protocol remaining valid for 3 years after IACUC approval and requiring a new submission to the IACUC for review and approval at the end of the 3-year term. However, Department of Defense funded animal care and use protocols still require an annual review.
- Facility issues: None
- Protocol Monitoring:

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- Nineteen total protocols. Of the protocols, eight involve surgery, one restraint (and sx), 2 tumor modeling, 8 miscellaneous (tape skirt, infection, water quality, prolonged anesthesia). Ten are inactive right now.
- Adverse Events:
 - A lab member discovered two of 5 adult female mice dead in the cage with no food in the feed hopper. The remaining three mice were given food and gel and recovered. The mice had not undergone any experimental procedures. The last cage change occurred 8 days prior to when this occurred.
 - A cage containing a breeding trio with 8 live pups and 2 dead pups was found without food. The live animals received supportive care and all recovered. The cage was likely last handled by the room technician on 9 days prior when the rack was changed.

In both cases, the lack of food in the cage was not detected on the daily health check.

- Corrective Actions by DCM: Re-trained all technicians that worked in the rooms during that time periods involved as well as implementation of mystery cage in those rooms to ensure the animal technicians are checking cages appropriately. If a technician repeatedly misses the mystery cage, then personnel action will be taken.

Reported to OLAW.

The IACUC discussed the corrective actions being taken by DCM including the ~~new~~ Mystery Cage program and appropriateness of sending a letter of counsel.

Motion was made and seconded: to send a Letter of Counsel to the Chair of DCM
Further Discussion: An IACUC member asked about considering twice daily checks on the animals, especially in the bigger housing rooms and that suggestion will be discussed with the DCM Chair. The Root Cause Analysis sub-committee was asked about their findings on this type of adverse event and if they had identified a root cause that could inform additional corrective actions. There was discussion around temporarily increasing the light intensity in the housing room to help see into the cages.

Vote: Approved with 14 members voting in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

- Non-compliance:
 - ABSL3 DCM personnel are expected to do animal health checks every day animals are present in the facility. On Sunday 12/5, cages in 2 different mouse housing rooms in the ABSL3 facility did not receive the daily health check by DCM personnel. As animals are not continuously housed in the ABSL3 facility, DCM has multiple routine practices in place to help ensure personnel are aware of the weekend and holiday days they must travel to the facility to perform health checks: personnel

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are scheduled in advance and a notation is made on the DCM management shared calendar; - a standing agenda topic during their weekly Thursday meeting is to review animal health check assignments for the upcoming week. In this instance, both practices occurred. The responsible individual did notify the ABSL3 Facility Director of this error the next morning and immediately entered the facility to check on the animals. No unexpected health conditions were noted. This individual took full responsibility for their error and has been retrained. Additional corrective action: During that Thursday meeting, an email could be generated and programmed to be delivered on Friday, to the person/people scheduled to do weekend health checks.

Reported to OLAW.

Motion was made and seconded: to send a Letter of Counsel to the Facility Director.

Further Discussion: Confirmed there were animals present in the rooms and there does need to be a daily check. Discussion around the appropriateness of sending a Letter of Counsel as this individual simply forgot [to do this weekend check](#).

Vote: Approved with 14 members voting in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

- From Arizona
 - Facilities items: No items to report.
 - Adverse events: No adverse events to report.

Protocol Review

- Standard Procedures for Protocol Review – AS

Two procedures with changes – NHP: Anesthetic Overdose, Pentobarbital or Pentobarbital Solution and Anesthesia, Terminal, Pentobarbital or Pentobarbital Solution – both updated to remove reference to phenytoin as some euthanasia solutions do not contain this agent

Seven procedures without changes – Analgesia, Local, Bupivacaine and Lidocaine in Song Birds, dogs, Ferrets, Hamsters, Rabbits – NZW. Also, Blood Collection, Tether Catheter (Unsedated) and Colposcopy in NHP's.

Motion was made and seconded: to approve all of the standard procedures as written.

Further Discussion: none

Vote: Approved with 14 members voting in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Standard Operation Procedures / Policies / Guidelines

- Policies – KS
 - a. Use of CFA and Other Adjuvants in Research Animals

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- major edits including acceptable routes of administration for CFA
- b. Permissible Weight Loss in Research Animals-
 - minor edits
- c. Analgesia in Research Animals
 - i. Appendix 2: Species Specific signs of pain
 - minor edits to the policy
 - grimace scales have been developed for additional species and added to the appendix
- d. IACUC Protocol Requirements-
 - removal of annual reviews for USDA covered species
- e. VVC of Agents SOP –
 - addition of new drug formularies

Motion was made and seconded: to approve all of the policies as written.

Further Discussion: *any discussion/changes/notes*

Vote: Approved with 15 members voting in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

IACUC Training - JS

- Reminded and encouraged all IACUC Members to take the IACUC trainings by the end of the year and please provide feedback

Other Business

- Semi-Annual Program Review – BE
 - Group #1 - IACUC Membership and Functions, IACUC Training, IACUC Records and Reporting Requirements
 - Found this section to be acceptable. There are surveys that are utilized for in person and online content, however there isn't really a metric to judge the effectiveness of the training. How could this potentially be evaluated? There was discussion around using the number or frequency of adverse events and/or sending a survey to the PI's asking if there were unmet training needs. Also, a discussion about if IACUC members know who to contact if they have a question when reviewing a protocol. IACUC members usually reach out to OAW liaison assigned to the protocol. Talked about planning an IACUC member training retreat, but this has been on hold during the pandemic.
 - Group #2 – Personnel Qualifications and Training and Occupational Health and Safety of Personnel

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- Found both sections to be acceptable. The strides that the Instructional Designer has made in regards to trainings were noted. Wondered if there was a need for mental wellness checks for folks.
- Group #3 – IACUC Protocol Review
 - Found everything acceptable in this section.
- Group #4 – Veterinary Care (including Clinical Care and Management, Animal Procurement and Transportation/Preventive Medicine, Surgery, Pain, Distress, Anesthesia and Analgesia, Euthanasia, and Drug Storage and Control)
 - Found all to be acceptable. The Veterinarians are all well trained and credentialed and are always working with facilities and management. Would be helpful if each vivarium had a contact list for who was responsible for lock boxes and drug logs can be evaluated. It would be good to get facilities staff more involved as well.
- Group #5 – Animal Care and Use Program, Disaster Planning and Emergency Preparedness, Personnel Security, Investigating & Reporting Animal Welfare Concerns
 - Disaster Preparedness took up most of the conversation. Proposes a sub group be formed to create an IACUC repository for Disaster Planning (or Emergency Response). HuskyReady houses most of the Emergency Plans for the UW, along with individual departments.
- Public Comment Process
 - New process was announced for Public Comments to be made via sign up and will be at the beginning of meetings going forward.

Closing Business:

The Meeting was brought to a close at 3:52 pm. The floor was opened to public comment.