

Summary of Exceptions to the Standards and Regulations

Eastern Illinois University
Registration Number: 33-R-0137
Customer ID Number: 37323

Exception to Standards: AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia (2007)
Use of conditionally acceptable method of euthanasia – Cervical dislocation
of small mammals

The use of cervical dislocation as a method of euthanasia of small wild mammals in field studies has been reviewed and approved by the IACUC based on written scientific justification by the principal investigators. Investigators have extensive experience in administering this technique for all species involved.

Reasons for Exception:

- 1) In each applicable study, involving capture and release of small wild mammals, death of animals is not an endpoint. Euthanasia would only be administered in case of severe injury or illness, or if severe or chronic pain cannot be relieved. Thus, it is not practical to bring either chemicals or equipment needed for euthanizing into the field.

Species and number of animals affected: None

- 2) In each applicable study, euthanasia would be applied in the field at the time of capture. Standard chemical means of euthanasia involving drugs or carbon dioxide inhalation must be replaced with a physical method, as exposure to euthanizing substances would interfere with chemical analysis of the blood and tissues.

Species and number of animals affected:

House mouse – 4
Least shrew – 5
Masked shrew – 10
Short-tailed shrew – 10
Prairie vole – 10