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**OMB APPROVED**  
0579-0036

Interagency Report Control No. 0180-DOA-AN

Fiscal year: 2021

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE**

**Annual Report of Research Facility  
Column E Explanation**

*(TYPE OR PRINT)* Virginia Commonwealth University

**This information is required by law (7 U.S.C. 2143 and 9 C.F.R. §2.36). Failure to report according to the regulations can result in an order to cease and desist.**

**1. REGISTRATION NUMBER**

52-R-0124

**2. Research Facility Headquarters address**

Virginia Commonwealth University (Box 980568)  
800 East Leigh Street Biotech One Suite 3000  
Richmond, VA 23298

**3. Number of animals used in the study.**

83

**4. Species (common name) of animals used in the study.**

Rabbits

**5. Explain the procedure producing pain and distress.**

Animals that have tibial nerve surgery have analgesics withheld one week prior to CMAP/nerve action potential testing at the terminal surgery (scientific endpoint). NOTE: Animals do receive Buprenorphine SR LAB prior to surgery, the effect of which lasts 3 days post-op. In addition during the entire period of the study, if any animal develops wounds or complications resulting in pain/distress, the animal will be given analgesics to relieve that pain. Analgesics are withheld on the last week before the animal reaches the scientific end point for the study.

**6. Provide the scientific justification for not providing the appropriate anesthetics, analgesics, or tranquilizing drugs during procedures where the animal experienced accompanying pain or distress greater than momentary or slight.**

Due to the inherently painful nature of nerve injuries, any animal demonstrating discomfort/pain as noted by excessive licking at toes or chewing the nails is treated by administering analgesics, and/or loosening or removing bandages. Such animals are assessed at least once daily for resolution of any distress. Administration of analgesics within a week of CMAP/nerve action potential testing may alter data and alternative methods of addressing discomfort will be discussed with DAR's Veterinary staff.

**7. What, if any, Federal regulations require this procedure? Cite the agency, the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) title number, and the specific section number (e.g., APHIS, 9 CFR 113, 102):**

NA

**Agency**

**CFR**