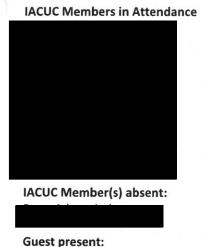
Vet Tech





The Chair of the IACUC called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. This constitutes the semi-annual IACUC program review, facility inspection and review of protocols.

 Previously Discussed Business: The Chair of the IACUC read the Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Agreement to the committee at the start of the meeting:

<u>Conflict of Interest:</u> Should any member have a conflict of interest involving any investigator, protocol or business item under consideration at the IACUC meeting, they are to depart the room during the IACUC's vote on the item. The actual nature of the conflict need not be disclosed. Members unsure of whether a particular situation is a potential conflict may present the issue to the IACUC for consideration during the meeting or prior to the meeting, may present the issue to the IACUC Chairman for consideration.

<u>Confidentiality Statement:</u> Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) meetings are not public meetings. Members must maintain the confidentiality of information shared as part of the activities of the IACUC; this provides protection to the researchers and IACUC members. Members will not disclose or use IACUC discussion, deliberations, decisions or protocol information in any way. All such information (and any copies and notes thereof) shall remain the sole property of SUNY Optometry, and the obligation of confidentiality shall last indefinitely.

All members were recorded denying conflict of interest and confirming the confidentiality of the meetings.

#### **II. New Business**

2.1 The minutes of the previous meeting on May 19, 2021 were approved as written.

Page 1 of 5



- 2.2 BRF Director report:
  - a. The New York State Inspection occurred on October 7, 2021; no non-compliances were noted.
  - b. Condensation water dripping from the cage washer exhaust duct. Repairs are scheduled.
- 2.3 IACUC member training: preparation for AAALACi accreditation application submission The Attending Veterinarian presented one video and one powerpoint:
  - "Introduction: what is AAALAC international" (video accessible via hyperlink). "what is AAALAC?" Handout attached and to be sent to IACUC members.



- . AAALAC Three Minute Introduction ENGLISH (.mp4 video file)
- 2. "Preparing for an AAALAC and IACUC Site Visit", powerpoint presentation author, of the Laboratory Animal Resources Center at the Handouts attached and to be sent to IACUC members.

Discussion followed the presentation. Key points discussed were:

- the benefits of having AAALACi accreditation: Handout attached and will be sent to IACUC members
  - · Possibility of securing more funding.
  - More possibilities for collaborations.
  - In the event of animal rights activity, they would be a resource.
  - AAALAC accreditation is considered the 'Gold Standard'
- 2. Challenges during the preparation of the application "program description"
  - Given the in-depth analysis conducted by the AAALAC site visitors and council, the
    content of the program description must have input from all key personnel within
    the College that provide support service to the BRF and research labs, for example,
    the IO, FM&D, Environmental services, Security, IT.
  - Institutional, IACUC and BRF policies, guidelines and SOPs need to be reviewed, revised and/or created and then approved. An IACUC subcommittee will be established for this purpose
  - All personnel conducting animal-related research need centralized access to relevant
    policies, guidelines and SOPs for training and regulatory purposes. IT will be
    contacted to create a share point or one drive folder for IACUC members and one for
    scientists.

Page 2 of 5



- A handbook incorporating all animal use guidance is being created by the BRF Director and AV. It is currently 113 pages and when completed will be used for final revision/completion of the AAALAC program description.
- AAALAC conducts its evaluations on a trimester schedule. April 1, 2022 is the Program Description due date for the next trimester with site visits scheduled for May - July. The Council on Accreditation meets in September at which time they will determine AAALAC status.

#### III. Protocol Review

4.1	Reviews	conducted	by	DMR
-----	---------	-----------	----	-----

- 2<sup>ND</sup> year renewal)
   (2<sup>ND</sup> year renewal)
   Holding Protocol (mice): (three year review )
- 4.2 Full committee review

Three year reviews:

- IACUC action: Modifications required for approval via DMR.
   The following details are needed.
  - 1. Provide a copy of the vertebrate section of the grant or a copy of the research strategy for reconciliation with animal related procedures herein described.
  - 2. Summarize what was accomplished during the previous 3 year period (page 2).
  - Under Goals in Layperson terms, the use of the word 'implemented' needs to be changed to implicated. If you have SOPs and/or guidelines for these procedures that you use in the lab or that are used to train lab members please append them to the protocol.
  - 4. Page 5, Please Include all strains including flox and cre and be sure that all animals including the wrong genotype (hets) are included in the animal number requested.
  - 5. Page 6- Trio breeding justification must be provided as this breeding scheme creates increased cage density. Do you have management techniques for lab members that avoid overcrowding? For example, To avoid overcrowding, pregnant females must be separated into individual maternity cages for delivery of litters. The IACUC recommends separation of pregnant females up to one week before expected delivery. Maternity cages must be closely observed for delivery of pups and the date of birth recorded on cage cards. Simultaneous presence of two or more litters in a single cage is not permitted, unless justified and approved in the IACUC protocol.
  - Page 13, Section V Hazardous Materials used. Indicate the type of agent being used; Indicate personnel; revise the disposal for the hazardous waste as regulated medical waste (red bag).

Page 3 of 5



- 7. Page 15, Section VI Experimental Procedures table. specify how personnel not familiar with procedures will be trained.
- 8. Page 16, Section VI, Experimental Procedures 3. Indicate if restraints are used.
- IACUC action: Modifications required for approval via DMR. The following details are needed for completeness.
  - Indicate the funding source and provide a copy of the vertebrate section of the grant or a copy of the proposals/research strategy to funding agencies for reconciliation with animal related procedures herein described.
  - 2. Summarize what was accomplished during the previous 3 year period (page 2).
  - 3. Provide descriptions for all animal related procedures in the procedure narrative section. Clarify if the microbead and intracameral injection refer to the same procedure. Since both intracameral and intraocular injections are indicated, clarify what each is used to inject. If you have SOPs and/or guidelines for these procedures that you use in the lab or that are used to train lab members please append them to the protocol.
  - Page 5, Please Include all strains including flox and cre and be sure that all animals including the wrong genotype (hets) are included in the animal number requested.
- IACUC action: Modifications required for approval via DMR.
  - 1. Please provide a copy of the vertebrate section or research strategy from the grant for reconciliation with the animal related procedures in the protocol
  - Please be sure all procedures are listed in the appropriate USDA pain category tables
    and also described in the procedure narrative section. If you have SOPs and/or
    guidelines for procedures that you use in the lab or that are used to train lab
    members please append a copy.
  - 3. Page 9, Section II.D.2. explain what an 'Injectrode' is and how it is used.
  - 4. Page 19, Section IV.D.c, End Tidal CO2 has been added by the AV as an anesthesia monitoring parameter.
  - 5. Page 26, please indicate who is responsible for body weight measurement, controlled water access monitoring and recordkeeping.
  - 6. Page 28, Please provide more information regarding the use of the pole and collar technique.
- IACUC action: Modifications required for approval via DMR.
  - 1. If applicable, please provide a copy of the vertebrate section or research strategy for the grant as for protocol reconciliation.

Page 4 of 5



- 2. Please check your room references as the overview page 1 indicates 1618-1621 and does not include 1616 and 1617. The IACUC needs to know every room location that animals enter and where animal procedures occur. Do you plan to keep animal out of the facility overnight (or greater than 12 hours)?
- 3. Please check the strains listed and the numbers requested as there appears to be some inconsistencies.
- 4. Page 11. Trio breeding schemes must be approved in an IACUC protocol. Justification must be provided as this breeding scheme creates increased cage density. Do you have management techniques for lab members that avoid overcrowding? For example, To avoid overcrowding, pregnant females must be separated into individual maternity cages for delivery of litters. The IACUC recommends separation of pregnant females up to one week before expected delivery. Maternity cages must be closely observed for delivery of pups and the date of birth recorded on cage cards. Simultaneous presence of two or more litters in a single cage is not permitted, unless justified and approved in the IACUC protocol
- 5. Page 6 Section I.L.1 table, add Dark Adaptation and for how long.
- 6. Page 23 Section V.7 remove term 'cytotoxic'.
- 7. Page 24 Indicate who is responsible for dark adaptation?
- 8. Page 26 Please describe the intravitreal injection procedure.
- 9. page.30 Section VII.4.c. please indicate the CO2 flow rate 10-30% volume displacement per/minute for euthanasia.
- V. Program Review and Facility Inspection:
  - 5.1 The Program review was conducted -no deficiencies were noted
  - 5.2 The facility inspection was conducted by a subcommittee of the IACUC. No deficiencies were noted.

No minority views were presented.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.





Below are answers to some of the most common general questions about AAALAC International's organization, governance and the accreditation program. For more details please visit www.aaalac.org.

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#### What is AAALAC International?

AAALAC International is a private, nonprofit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through a voluntary accreditation program, a program status evaluation service, and educational programs.

#### How is AAALAC governed?

AAALAC International is governed by a Board of Directors. AAALAC is also advised by a House of Delegates which represents a wide variety of prestigious scientific, educational and professional organizations—they are referred to these Member Organizations appoints a Member Organization Delegate to serve a three-year term in the House of Delegates.

#### What is the Council on Accreditation?

The Council is comprised of highly accomplished animal care and research professionals from around the globe who conduct the program reviews and final deliberations that determine which institutions are awarded AAALAC International accreditation. Their responsibilities include conducting site visits, reviewing site visit reports, evaluating information, reviewing yearly reports from accredited institutions, and conferring the accreditation status of institutions.

#### Who are ad hoc Consultants?

AAAIAC International maintains a worldwide pool of more than 300 ad hoc Consultants/ Specialists who have expertise in traditional laboratory animal species as well as special expertise (for example, in aquatics, avian or agricultural animal science). Many also have unique discipline competencies, such as applied neuroscience, behavioral science, toxicology,

pharmacology or physiology. Ad hoc Consultants/Specialists accompany Council members on site visits and make recommendations on accreditation to the Council. These specialists add depth to the site visit team. They understand the intricacies of combining research, testing and educational missions with animal well-being.

# Does AAALAC International make its own regulations?

No, AAALAC is not a regulatory body and does not make or enforce regulations. Instead, AAALAC International relies on Three Primary Standards used by the Council to evaluate programs: the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide), NRC 2011; the Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching (Ag Guide), American Dairy Science Association®, the American Society of Animal Science, and the Poultry Science Association 2020; and the European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals Used for Experimental and Other Scientific Purposes, Council of Europe (ETS 123). AAALAC International does publish "Position Statements" that are used as supplemental guidelines in dealing with certain issues, such as the use of farm animals, occupational health and safety, or adequate veterinary care. AAALAC International also publishes its "Rules of Accreditation," a document that lists the minimum criteria institutions must meet before they can be considered for accreditation. (All of these resources can be found at www.aaalac. org under the "Accreditation" section.)

### How extensive is an AAALAC International evaluation?

AAALAC evaluates all aspects of an animal care and use program. An animal program (as defined by AAALAC International) includes

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#### About AAALAC International

an organization's procedures and overall performance in animal care and use. The basic components that are evaluated ide (but are not limited to) institutional pulcies, animal husbandry, veterinary care, and physical plant.

# What deficiencies are most often noted by AAALAC site visitors?

The number and frequency of deficiencies found during site visits continues to decline. At any point in time, about 98 percent of all institutions currently participating in the accreditation program nave a fully accredited status. When problem areas are cited, they most frequently involve: occupational health and safety; the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) or comparable oversight body; or heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems.

# Does AAALAC International accredit agricultural animal programs?

Yes. Programs that use agricultural animals in research or for teaching are embracing the AAALAC accreditation program. The Ag Guide, the Guide, and ETS 123 are used to provide general parameters for the use of agricultural animals. AAALAC recognizes that the biomedical or agricultural research, testing or teaching objectives as well as the health and

"fare of the animals will dictate when plication of the recommendations of the Ag Guide, Guide, or ETS 123 is most appropriate. The collective professional judgment of the IACUC or comparable oversight body, principal investigator and veterinarian should determine which standard applies best with regard to the care and welfare of agricultural animals, based on a performance approach in the context of the requirements of the study and the species used. \* The rationale for making this determination should be documented.

\*For U.S. based institutions that also hold a Public Health Service Assurance, see additional information regarding this topic at http:// grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/faqs.htm#g7.

# Is accreditation available to small animal care and use programs?

Yes. The standards used to evaluate programs are universal and can be implemented in programs of any size. Likewise, programs using nontraditional research animals, such as fish or birds, are also encouraged to seek accreditation.

# Does AAALAC use the same standards to evaluate animal programs outside of the U.S.?

Because each country has its own set of laws and regulations, AAALAC International site visitors use a customized approach for evaluating programs in different countries. Evaluators take into account applicable laws and regulations of the host country, and the overall performance of the program as it relates to appropriate animal welfare objectives. They also evaluate the extent to which the program conforms with the principles outlined in AAALAC's three primary standards and other international standards.

# What references are used by AAALAC evaluators?

The principal references used to evaluate animal programs are the *Guide*, the *Ag Guide*, and ETS 123. Supplemental references are used to provide information on specialty topics and widely accepted scientific practices, procedures and techniques. A complete resource list is available on the AAALAC web site (www.aaalac.org/resources/reference-resources/) or from the AAALAC International office.

# Are the results of an AAALAC site visit confidential?

Yes. The entire accreditation process is confidential. The accreditation evaluation and its results are kept between the organization seeking accreditation and AAALAC International—even if deficiencies are found. AAALAC's purpose is to provide a peer evaluation that results in valuable information that

an organization can use to improve its program and achieve new levels of excellence. The Board of Directors, House of Delegates, Council members, ad hoc Consultants/Specialists and AAALAC staff are all required to sign confidentiality agreements. Conflict-of-interest statements are also signed by each site visitor. AAALAC International representatives agree to treat all materials as privileged and safeguard the materials in their possession.

### How does an institution maintain AAALAC accreditation?

Once accredited, an institution must file an Annual Report with AAAIAC International, noting any changes and the current condition of the animal care and use program. Each accredited institution is revisited and re-evaluated once every three years in order to maintain its accredited status.

### How much does accreditation cost?

Organizations seeking and maintaining accreditation are asked to pay a one-time application fee and subsequent annual fees. Both of these fees are based on a sliding scale that generally correlates with the size of an institution's animal facility. An institution that has very few animals will pay much smaller fees than one that maintains a large vivarium and extensive support areas. The fees cover the cost of periodic site visits and administrative expenses (see www.aaalac.org/accreditation-program/fees-and-deadlines/).

# How many animal care and use programs are accredited by AAALAC International?

More than 1,040 animal care and use programs in 50 countries have earned AAALAC International accreditation. These programs include academic institutions, commercial organizations, government agencies, hospitals, nonprofit organizations, and biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies.







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### The Benefits of AAALAC International Accreditation

More than 1,040 institutions in 50 countries around the world have earned AAALAC International accreditation. Here are a few of the reasons why so many biomedical and agricultural research programs chose to participate in AAALAC's program ...

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#### It represents quality

Organizations and companies look for ways to communicate their commitment to excellence. In the scientific community, AAALAC International accreditation shows that an institution is serious about setting, achieving and maintaining high standards for animal care and use and committed to animal welfare in science. AAALAC International offers the only international accreditation for animal care and use programs, and it has become recognized around the world as a sign of quality and sound science.

#### It promotes scientific validity

When research involves animals, reliable scientific results depend on superior animal care. AAALAC International accreditation engages scientists, veterinarians, managers and administrators in an independent, rigorous assessment of their institution's animal program—an assessment that ultimately results in improved animal welfare and better research practices and outcomes.

# It provides assurance in a global marketplace

Today it's common for research institutions to partner or contract with other research entities around the world. Because laws and regulations related to animal research vary

widely from country to country, AAALAC International accreditation can be used worldwide as a way to gauge the quality of a particular program, harmonize animal care and use practices, and provide assurance to diverse stakeholders.

#### It's a recruiting tool

AAALAC International accredited institutions can use their accreditation as a recruiting tool to attract the best and brightest researchers and professors. Talented professionals look for high quality programs to support their research. Accreditation assures potential employees that the institution is dedicated to achieving the highest standards for animal care and use.

#### It demonstrates accountability

In today's world, companies and organizations are held to very high levels of accountability—by their own constituents and the general public. Although animal research is a controversial issue for some, most people support biomedical research if it's conducted in a humane manner. Accreditation through AAALAC International is voluntary and demonstrates a willingness to go above and beyond the minimums required by law. It tells the public and other stakeholders that the institution is committed to the responsible care and use of animals in science.

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#### The Benefits of AAALAC International Accreditation

# It advances animal welfare and promotes the "Three Rs"

ALAC International accreditation helps institutions enhance their stewardship of the animals they use in research, teaching and testing. Participation also helps institutions focus on, and demonstrate, their support for the tenets of "Three Rs" of animal research: "Reduce, Refine and Replace."

# It provides a confidential peer-review

AAALAC accreditation requires an institution to first perform its own self-evaluation (an extremely valuable exercise for any institution to undertake). Next, a team of highly qualified AAALAC representatives provides an in-depth, confidential, on-site evaluation of the institution's animal care and use program. This independent peer-review ensures that the institution's program is meeting AAALAC International standards.

# It stimulates continuous improvement

When an institution participates in the AAAIAC accreditation program, it's committing to a process that stimulates continuous improvement. Earning and maintaining accreditation keeps an institution aware of, and engaged in, current best practices. Accreditation is a true commitment to humane animal care and use and shows the world that an institution is serious about ensuring animal well-being and conducting good science.

#### It instills a sense of pride and teamwork among animal care personnel

Earning and maintaining AAALAC International accreditation is a great achievement that can instill a sense of tremendous pride throughout all levels of an organization. In particular, it can be an immensely satisfying accomplishment for the animal care technicians, custodians, and others who provide much of the day-to-day care for an institution's animals. The process of earning and maintaining accreditation is often a valuable team-building experience for the entire animal care and use staff.

### What people say about the AAALAC International accreditation program

(Following are comments from AAALAC's most recent survey of institutions participating in the accreditation program...)

"We always learn something new that helps our program as a result of an AAALAC site visit."

"AAALAC is a valuable resource for information and support. AAALAC site visits have been essential in gaining dministrative support for needed improvements in our program during times of fiscal constraint."

"It's very helpful to have an objective outside observer review our operations and programs and let us know where we need to strengthen our procedures."

"AAALAC is a 'Good Housekeeping' seal of approval and has public relations value."

"Our institution has found AAALAC site visits helpful and informative. We appreciate your suggestions and strive to implement all of them. It's our mission to constantly be improving our laboratory animal program and AAALAC has provided sound guidance."

"We acted on many of AAALAC's suggestions. Very helpful. Thank you!"

"This was my first site visit and it was a very helpful, professional, and value-added experience for our program."

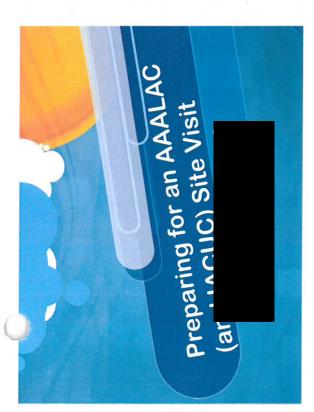
"Honestly speaking, even though we get a little anxious, we look forward to your visits."

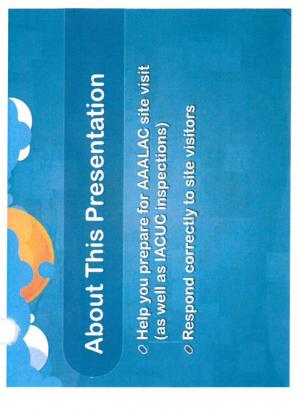
"The assistance from AAALAC in providing clear statements of the importance of ethics, care, and compliance in working with animals is extremely valuable. We appreciate you!"

"AAALAC is a valuable resource and we get better after every AAALAC site visit."

"I view AAALAC as a partner in research!"

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# Acronyms

 USDA – United States Department of Agriculture

O AAALAC International - Association for

Acronyms

the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International O IACUC - Institutional Animal Care and

**Use Committee** 

- O AWA Animal Welfare Act
- AALAS American Association for Laboratory Animal Science
- OLAW Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

Obtained by Rise for Animals.

Uploaded to Animal Research Laboratory Overview (ARLO) on 08/25/2022

O ACUP – Animal Care and Use Protocol





=Guide

Guide for the Care & Use

of Laboratory Animals

O The base document used by AAALAC to

evaluate the program

http://aaalac.org/resources/

O Download from

Guide 2011.pdf





# First Impressions

- O Organized, clean, neat, tidy
- Unorganized triggers "digging deeper" (human nature!)
- O Convey image that you are interested in a quality program
- O Good Animal Care = Good Science





Obtained by Rise for Animals.

Uploaded to Animal Research Laboratory Overview (ARLO) on 08/25/2022

# General Lab Housekeeping

- Avoid accidental entry of personnel not listed in protocol while working with animals
- O No eating or drinking in lab
- appropriate agents. Do you have SOPs? O All surfaces cleaned/disinfected with
- O Lab supplies properly stored & in date





- - t you must report to the Student Health Service. or scratch with hot water and entibecterial soap.
- bias and scratches with their physician prior to such occurrences. Stats and mice from appropriate devilors are trainfelvely publicism from, so there is generally title risk of zonoralic cleases transmission to healthy individuals, nonethieless the possibility still exists, expendily in experimentally infected annast

If you witness what you believe is animal mistreatment, you should report conce anonymousy, without worry of reprisal, through any of the following channels:

are posted in lab "Whistleblower" sign (& all other safety signs) Be sure the



REPORT QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT ANIMAL TREATMENT!

Liversory Veterorator (1666), <u>archites (40)</u>; or the LECU critice (4771), <u>acceptions Armed Care and Use Committee (LACUC)</u>; or the LECUC critice (4771), <u>acceptions Armed Care</u> (470), acceptions as Completions repeting a registration of acception and acception acception acception and completions are registrations.

ALL SUCH REPORTS ARE INVESTIGATED





- O Do you know what do you do with a sick animal during & after work hours?
- O Do you know the endpoints at which the animal should be euthanized?
- research related) must be coordinated O Remember: ALL clinical care (nonthrough the LARC

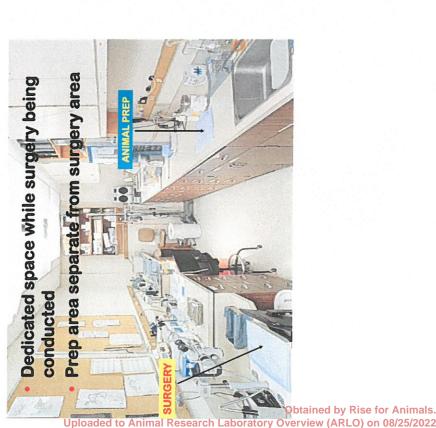
- Vou & your staff should know your protocol
  - Should match grant application
    - O No deviations
- O Has everyone in lab read it & knows how to access the APPROVED protocol?

# Anesthesia/Analgesia

- O Use only as approved in ACUP
- O Gas vaporizers should be calibrated yearly (unless otherwise indicated in manual)
- exhausting it through a hood or charcoal O Scavenge waste anesthetic gas by canister

# Peri-operative care consistent with your ACUP http://research.utsa.edu/files/oric/iacuc/ O Major emphasis on sterile technique O Know (& apply) the Rodent Surgery Rodent Surgery ACP Policy 004.pdf (survival surgery)

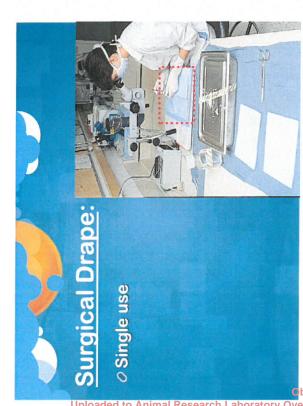








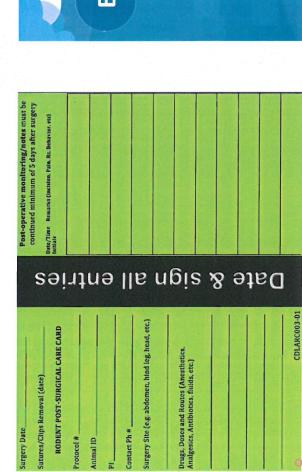






O Never leave unconscious animal unattended

Post-op:



Contact Ph#

Protocol # Animal ID O Use of a guillotine for euthanasia requires that

O Physical method w/o anesthesia requires

O CO<sub>2</sub> followed by physical method

Must be as approved in ACUP – NO DEVIATIONS

specialized training and justification

it be properly maintained & users training be

documented for effectiveness & safety

btained by Rise for Animals.

Uploaded to Animal Research Laboratory Overview (ARLO) on 08/25/2022









O Pharmaceutical grade is default unless not

commercially available

Non-Pharmaceutical

**Grade Drugs** 

ACP Policy 015.pdf

http://research.utsa.edu/files/oric/iacuc/

Must be approved in protocol

O Refer to IACUC policy #15,









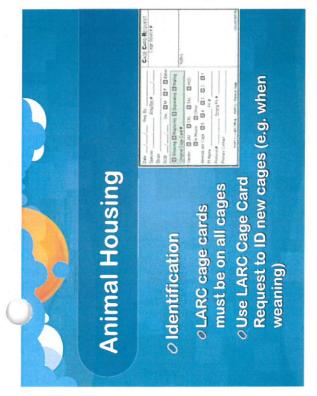














# Satellite Facilities SOPs

- O Disinfecting agent(s) & how performed
- O Verification of cleaning
- O Feed and schedule
- Daily health checks (submitted to LARC weekly)
- O Water quality
- O Sick animals, euthanasia, etc.

# We Can All Succeed

Don't allow your lab to jeopardize accreditation, because...

Successful accreditation will happen if every animal care component succeeds, & that includes YOU

Be proactive with LARC & IACUC... Talk to us!