

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL SCHOOL
INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE**

Minutes from Monday, April 26, 2021

Present: MG (Chair), GD (Member – AV), DG (Member - Vice Chair), NH (Member), OK (Member), LL (Member), GM (Member), GP (Member), DH (Member, Non-affiliate), CP (Member), RR (Member, Non-scientist), MR (Member), LS (Member – vet), EL (Alternate), AS (Alternate- Non-scientist,), JC (Associate Director-Animal Medicine, Alternate)

Non-Members Present: CM (IACUC/IBC Director), EN (Sr. Protocol Specialist), DS (Research Compliance Specialist), SC (IACUC Admin), GC (Guest)

Absent: HK (Member), CT (Member) RZ (Member), JM (Alternate Member), LS (Alternate Member), HS (Alternate Member), YW (Alternate Member), YXW (Alternate Member)

*This meeting was called to order by the Chair at 3:02 PM
The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 PM*

1. Protocols for Review

a. PROTO202000045 (AR1)

The first annual renewal form was distributed for review prior to the meeting. It was noted that no animal work has started yet on this protocol. There was no further discussion.

*A motion was made to approve the first annual renewal for PROTO202000045.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve the first annual renewal for PROTO202000045.*

b. A-2567-19 (AR2)

The second annual renewal form was distributed for review prior to the meeting. It was noted that two pigs were used this year on this protocol with no adverse effects. There was no further discussion.

*A motion was made to approve the second annual renewal for A-2567-19.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve the second annual renewal for A-2567-19.*

c. A-2056-19 (AR2)

The second annual renewal form was distributed for review prior to the meeting. It was noted that no hamsters were used this year on this protocol. There was no further discussion.

*A motion was made to approve the second annual renewal for A-2056-19.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve the second annual renewal for A-2056-19.*

d. PROTO202000010 (Surgeon form)

The surgeon form was distributed to members prior to the meeting for review. It was noted that the surgeon will follow the training plan described in the PIs protocol.

*A motion was made to approve the surgeon addition to PROTO202000010.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to the surgeon addition to PROTO202000010.*

e. PROTO202000055 (AR1)

The first annual renewal form was distributed for review prior to the meeting. It was noted that no animal work has started yet on this protocol. There was no further discussion.

*A motion was made to approve the first annual renewal for PROTO202000055.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve the first annual renewal for PROTO202000055.*

f. A-2206-19 (AR2)

The second annual renewal form was distributed for review prior to the meeting. It was noted that there were no adverse events on this protocol. There was no further discussion.

*A motion was made to approve the second annual renewal for A-2206-19.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve the second annual renewal for A-2206-19.*

2. Announcements and Discussion

a. Humane Endpoints Policy

CM (*IACUC/IBC Director*) recommended that the sub-committee be (re)established/(re)convened to review the Humane Endpoints policy. The subcommittee should determine whether the policy adequately establishes the following:

- A definition of a “humane endpoint”
- UMMS Standard Humane Endpoints to be defaults in cases where it is not further specified in a protocol. PIs can add **study-specific** endpoints to their protocols.
- Protocol guidelines
- A *Frequently Asked Questions* section

MG (*Chair*) added that researchers and reviewers should be trained once the policy was finalized. MG (*Chair*) informally asked for sub-committee volunteers and GM (*Member – AV*) indicated that he will participate.

b. Recordkeeping Policy

This will be added to the agenda of the next meeting and include responses from the inspections.

c. Inspections

CM (*Director*) presented remaining inspections findings for committee discussion. Corrective actions were discussed and dates for completion voted on. All inspections have been completed at this time. The completed report is to be submitted to the IO.

*A motion was made to adopt the inspection report with corrections.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to adopt the inspection report with corrections.*

d. Program Review

The next Program Review is approaching. A subcommittee of the IACUC will be appointed. All members were invited to attend. Agenda items were solicited.

- e. The IACUC chair reminded the IACUC to ensure a justification is provided for use of non-pharmaceutical grade agents, specifically discussing a recent protocol involving MS-222. The IACUC discussed expectations regarding use of MS-222 and consider drafting a policy for its use.
- f. MG (*Chair*) and GD (*AV*) provided an update on new construction and indicated that animals have not been impacted thus far. GD (*AV*) intends to alert PIs when construction involving demolition will occur, as this may impact animal behaviors.

3. Protocol Violations & Adverse Events

a. LEGACY 1910-18

Mice from a lapsed protocol were transferred to the blanket holding protocol, which is managed by Department of Animal Medicine staff. It was brought to the attention of the IACUC that breeding pairs were not separated when the mice were transferred to the holding protocol. The researchers identified these cages and separated the breeders on behalf of the Animal Medicine staff to avoid further breeding. Animal Medicine staff reported these two concerns to the IACUC since research personnel were not permitted to handle animals while on the holding protocol.

The IACUC discussed the incident and corrective actions. The Department of Animal Medicine staff immediately notified research personnel (and PI) that they are not permitted to handle animals on a holding protocol in any capacity. Remaining breeding cages were immediately separated by Department of Animal Medicine staff. During the meeting, the AV indicated that the Animal Medicine staff will internally clarify the procedures for managing animals on the holding protocol as it was not clear why breeders were not originally separated. Department of Animal Medicine staff will be retrained once the procedure has been clarified.

GD (*Member-AV*) recused himself to allow for committee discussion and vote. The IACUC agreed that there was no impact on animal health or welfare as a result of this incident and that the proposed corrective actions were sufficient to prevent this in the future.

A motion was made to adopt the corrective actions.

Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to adopt the corrective actions.

4. Consent Agenda

a. PROC0003423 Transcardial Perfusion (PRiSM SOP)

The policy was distributed to members prior to the meeting for review. Several changes were made during the meeting to remove specific post-mortem fixatives.

A motion was made to approve Transcardial Perfusion as modified.

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the Transcardial Perfusion as modified.

b. 6.01 Facial Vein Blood Collection

The policy was distributed to members prior to the meeting for review. There were no concerns.

*A motion was made to approve Policy 6.01 Facial Vein Blood Collection.
Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 6.01 Facial Vein Blood Collection.*

c. 6.15 Blood Volumes

The policy was distributed to members prior to the meeting for review with modifications by the veterinary staff. There were no concerns.

*A motion was made to approve Policy 6.15 Blood Volumes.
Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 6.15 Blood Volumes.*

5. Educational Material was distributed to members to review prior to the meeting and discussed: *Laboratory Animal Science Professional 2020; 8(4). Maintaining Compliance in Unprecedented Times: Flexibilities for Compliance with the PHS Policy During the COVID-19 Pandemic.*
6. A list of protocols approved by DMR from March 19, 2021 to April 21, 2021 was distributed to members prior to the meeting and brought to the attention of the committee during the meeting.
7. The March meeting minutes were sent to the IACUC for review prior to the meeting. The meeting minutes were brought to the attention of the members and there were no concerns.

*A motion was made to adopt the March 22, 2021 meeting minutes.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to adopt the March 22, 2021 meeting minutes.*

