

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

Minutes from Monday, September 27, 2021

Present: MG (Chair), NH (Member), HK (Member), OK (Member), GM (Member), GP (Member), DH (Member, Non-affiliate), CP (Member), RR (Member, Non-scientist), MR (Member), LL (Member), EL (Alternate), GD (Member – AV), LS (Member – vet),

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

Absent: CT (Member), RZ (Member), LS (Alternate Member), AS (Alternate- Non-scientist), YW (Alternate Member), YXW (Alternate Member), JC (Associate Director-Animal Medicine, Alternate), JM (Alternate Member)

*This meeting was called to order by the Chair at 3:12 PM
The meeting was adjourned at 5:01 PM*

1. Protocols for Review

- a. PROTO202000104 (A-1991) (AR1)
The first annual renewal form was distributed for review prior to the meeting. The protocol uses DoD funding for mice. No adverse outcomes were reported and a summary of work for the past year was provided. The IACUC had no questions or concerns.

*A motion was made to approve the first annual renewal for PROTO202000104.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve the first annual renewal for PROTO202000104.*

NH (Member, Vice Chair) not present for the vote.

- b. PROTO202100108 (Surgeon Forms)
Eight surgeon forms were distributed to members prior to the meeting for review. The IACUC reviewed training of each surgeon. The IACUC office noted that two of the forms reference a trainer who does not have prior surgical experience. The IACUC office will confirm that an experienced individual will be providing training and rectify the discrepancy in the surgeon form. The IACUC voted to approve the surgeon forms, upon identification of an experienced trainer and completion of standard IACUC training.

*A motion was made to approve the surgeon additions to PROTO202100108 upon completion of conditions.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve the surgeon addition to PROTO202100108 upon completion of conditions.*

NH (Member, Vice Chair) not present for the vote.

2. Department of Animal Medicine Operations Update

GD reported that the department is currently experiencing staffing issues. Animal health/well-being is not impacted as all standard services for veterinary care and animal husbandry are able to be maintained with current staffing. Department of Animal Medicine managed colony expansion and core services offered for fee may be limited.

GD also reported that blasting has been completed. Vibration dampeners were deployed. There were no documented reports of construction-related adverse impacts on animal health/well-being.

3. Announcements and Discussion

a. Inspection Findings

Inspection findings were distributed prior to the meeting for review and the report to the IO was discussed by the IACUC. The IACUC provided designations of deficiencies (minor or significant), evaluated and/or proposed corrective actions, established corrective action due dates, and voted to approve the inspection. Additionally, two pending minor deficiencies involving minor paint chips were re-evaluated from the previous inspection period. The IACUC voted to extend the corrective action due date, which involves completion of a pending work order, until the Fall/Winter 2021 semi-annual IACUC inspections.

A motion was made to approve the deficiency designations, proposed corrective actions and due dates (current and extended).

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve the deficiency designations, proposed corrective actions and due dates (current and extended).

b. IACUC review of health clearance and standardized training in PRiSM

CM (IACUC Director) reminded the committee that the IACUC office verifies health clearance and completion of standard training during administrative review of protocols based on the established IACUC requirements.

c. Anesthesia PRiSM question

CM (IACUC Director) brought to the attention of the committee a specific text box in PRiSM used to describe anesthesia in narrative form, instead of creating nested procedures. The IACUC determined that use of this text box should be discouraged, and a substance administration nested procedure should be used instead to ensure all relevant information is captured. The IACUC office will emphasize this point during training and IACUC/Office will monitor the use of this text box during reviews.

During this discussion the IACUC also mentioned the need to reduce abbreviations used in protocols and the IACUC office will continue to advise PIs to define their acronyms during administrative review.

d. IACUC Alternatives and Duplication Search Guidance on Library website

The Lamar Soutter Library staff created a website for IACUC alternative and duplication searches which includes specific guidance for the research community. RR (member) will provide a demo of the website at an upcoming IACUC meeting. IACUC members were encouraged to review the website and inform colleagues in their departments of this resource.

e. USDA inspection

The IACUC discussed the outcome and implications of the USDA annual inspection which took place on September 20-21, 2021.

4. Protocol Violations & Adverse Events

a. PROTO201900301 update

The IACUC Chair and IACUC Office Director met with the PI after the previous IACUC meeting and information obtained from the original report was clarified and presented to the IACUC. During the meeting with the PI, the IACUC Chair discussed the importance of record keeping and providing clear information to the IACUC. Additionally, the surgeon has undergone training with Department of Animal Medicine trainer and an amendment was approved to include an alternative method of euthanasia and clarify a dose of meloxicam.

It was determined by the IACUC that the method of euthanasia was clinically indicated after discussion with the AV. The PI also clarified that these procedures were originally scheduled as survival surgery but were unsuccessful and therefore the rats were not recovered. The outcome and number of animals impacted was approved in the protocol, and therefore the IACUC agreed that there were no non-compliant actions or outcomes identified. No further actions were required.

b. **PROTO202000106**

Several cages of male mice were received from a routinely used and approved vendor. Mice arrived with wounds and were treated by veterinary staff shortly after their arrival. There were no compliance concerns. The IACUC agreed that the laboratory should evaluate mice daily upon arrival at UMMS for the first week to ensure fighting does not occur, as this was the likely cause of the wounds.

*A motion was made to approve the corrective action plan for PROTO202000106.
Moved, seconded, and voted to approve corrective actions for PROTO202000106.*

c. **PROTO202000037**

Three incidents were reported to the IACUC, affecting 7 newly weaned mouse cages. Cages were improperly prepared by laboratory personnel after weaning mouse pups. Additionally, one cage of pups did not survive overnight after they were weaned. Affected cages and mice were identified by Department of Animal Medicine staff the following morning. It was noted that the strain of mouse can experience early mortality which is described in the IACUC protocol. While improperly prepared cages may have contributed to distress of the mice, the specific cause of the outcome could not be determined.

The condition of the pups and actions taken by the Department of Animal Medicine staff were discussed by the IACUC.

Corrective Actions

- The PI met with lab staff to discuss the incidents
- The IACUC office director met with the 3 PIs from this laboratory and a senior level research assistant to discuss the impact on animal welfare, humane endpoints, possible cause of the outcome, corrective actions and next steps.
- PI provided retraining for all animal users on husbandry practices related to weaning and cage preparation. They also discussed changes in practice to ensure all animals are provided the necessary level of care when performing research activities

Proposed additional corrective actions

- Hands-on retraining by Department of Animal Medicine on cage preparation during weaning within one week of notification.
- Recommend implementing a process by which the last person to leave the animal holding room conducts a final walkthrough of all cages at the end of day and document this check.

*A motion was made to approve the corrective action plan for **PROTO202000037**. Moved, seconded, and voted to unanimously to approve corrective actions for **PROTO202000037**.*

5. Consent Agenda

a. **Policy 1.02: Food and Fluid Regulation**

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. CM (Director) discussed the changes made to the policy. After a discussion, there were additional items to be addressed and the veterinary staff asked for time to review the policy again. The IACUC voted to table the policy until these points could be resolved.

A motion was made to table Policy 1.02: Food and Fluid Regulation until further veterinary input could be made.

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to table Policy 1.02: Food and Fluid Regulation until further veterinary input could be made.

b. **Policy 2.02: Transporting Animals Outside the Animal Medicine Facility**

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. The committee discussed the policy and made several changes during the meeting to indicate clarify provision of food and water during transportation.

A motion was made to approve Policy 2.02: Transporting Animals Outside the Animal Medicine Facility.

Moved, seconded and voted to approve Policy 2.02: Transporting Animals Outside the Animal Medicine Facility.

One dissenting vote was noted. Quorum was maintained.

c. **Policy 2.03: Transporting Rodents to Irradiator**

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

A motion was made to approve Policy 2.03: Transporting Rodents to Irradiator.

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 2.03: Transporting Rodents to Irradiator.

d. **Policy 3.04: Use of 5-BROMO-2'-DEOXYURIDINE (BrdU) in Mice**

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. Chemical safety made one grammatical revision, but otherwise had no comments. There were no IACUC comments or concerns.

A motion was made to approve Policy 3.04: Use of 5-BROMO-2'-DEOXYURIDINE (BrdU) in Mice.

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 3.04: Use of 5-BROMO-2'-DEOXYURIDINE (BrdU) in Mice

e. **Policy 3.05: Use of 5-ETHYNYL-2'-DEOXYURIDINE (EdU) in Mice**

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. Chemical safety made one grammatical revision, but otherwise had no comments. There were no IACUC comments or concerns.

A motion was made to approve Policy 3.05: Use of 5-ETHYNYL-2'-DEOXYURIDINE (EdU) in Mice.

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 3.05: Use of 5-ETHYNYL-2'-DEOXYURIDINE (EdU) in Mice

f. **Policy 3.06: Expired Drugs**

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. No changes were made and there were no IACUC comments or concerns.

A motion was made to approve Policy 3.06: Expired Drugs.

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 3.06: Expired Drugs

g. **Policy 3.07: Testing Rodent-Derived Biological Products for The Presence of Adventitious Pathogens**

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. GD (Member, AV) made some changes which were incorporated into the policy prior to distribution. There were no IACUC comments or concerns.

A motion was made to approve Policy 3.07: Testing Rodent-Derived Biological Products for The Presence of Adventitious Pathogens

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 3.07: Testing Rodent-Derived Biological Products for The Presence of Adventitious Pathogens

h. **Policy 6.02: Lateral Tail Vein Blood Collection in Mice**

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. The veterinary staff made substantial changes which were incorporated into the policy prior to distribution. There were no IACUC comments or concerns.

A motion was made to approve Policy 6.02: Lateral Tail Vein Blood Collection in Mice.

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 6.02: Lateral Tail Vein Blood Collection in Mice.

i. **Policy 6.03: Retro-Orbital Blood Collection in Mouse or Rats**

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. The veterinary staff made changes which were incorporated into the policy prior to distribution. There were no IACUC comments or concerns.

A motion was made to approve Policy 6.03: Retro-Orbital Blood Collection in Mouse or Rats.

Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 6.03: Retro-Orbital Blood Collection in Mouse or Rats.

j. **Policy 6.08: Alzet Minipump Implantation**

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. No changes were made to the policy and there were no IACUC comments or concerns.

*A motion was made to approve Policy 6.08: Alzet Minipump Implantation.
Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 6.08: Alzet Minipump
Implantation.*

k. Policy 6.19: Optical Imaging Core Facility

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. The SOP was reviewed by the imaging core director prior to distribution. There were no IACUC comments or concerns.

*A motion was made to approve Policy 6.19: Optical Imaging Core Facility.
Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 6.19: Optical Imaging Core
Facility.*

l. Policy 7.04: Policy on Complaints and Violations

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. The IACUC office will contact IT to create a mechanism for an anonymous electronic submission for complaints and reporting violations on the IACUC intranet site. It was noted that the anonymous complaints and reports of violations are currently accommodated by submission of intra-office mail or a hard copy to the IACUC office mailbox.

*A motion was made to approve Policy 7.04: Policy on Complaints and Violations.
Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 7.04: Policy on Complaints
and Violations.*

m. Policy 7.15: Veterinary Authorization

The policy was distributed to the IACUC members prior to the meeting for review. Language was updated to be consistent with The Guide, but there were no changes to the processes. The IACUC had no comments or concerns.

*A motion was made to approve Policy 7.15: Veterinary Authorization.
Moved, seconded and voted unanimously to approve Policy 7.15: Veterinary
Authorization*

6. Educational Material: Educational material providing information on departures from The Guide was sent to the committee for review and discussed during the meeting.

7. A list of protocols approved by DMR from June 16, 2021 to September 16, 2021 was distributed to members prior to the meeting. CM (Director) informed the committee that 75 reviews were processed over the last few months and thanked the committee for their service to the University

8. The June 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 June 21, 2021 meeting minutes.
Moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to adopt the June 21, 2021 meeting minutes.*



