Column E Explanation

This form is intended as an aid to completing the Column E explanation. - is not an official form and its use is voluntary. Names, addresses, protocols, veterinary care programs, and the like, are not required as part of an explanation. A Column E explanation must be written so as to be understood by lay persons as well as scientists.

1 Registration Number: 43-R-0011

2 Number 18 of animals used in this study.

3 Species (common name) Syrian Hamster of animals used in the study.

4 Explain the procedure producing pain and/or distress.

Syrian hamsters were used in an established and validated model to characterize viral pathogenesis and efficacy testing of antiviral therapies. Hamsters were inoculated with virus and assessed for natural disease course progression or treated to assess the efficacy of antiviral agents. Clinical signs associated with natural disease progression include mild to moderate lethargy, decreased grooming and weight loss.

5 Attach or include an explanation with the reason(s) for why anesthetics, analgesics and tranquillizers could not be used. (For Federally mandated testing, see item 6 below)

The use of pain relieving drugs would invalidate or confound the experimental outcome by altering or masking clinical signs associated with natural disease progression. IACUC-approved humane endpoints were pre-established to minimize pain and distress of infected animals. Hamsters were closely monitored on a daily basis to assess general health and to identify any untoward clinical signs. Hamsters that met or approached IACUC-approved, pre-defined humane endpoints were euthanized in accordance with the current AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia recommendations.

Eighteen (18) infected hamsters that had not met the pre-defined humane endpoints for euthanasia were unexpectedly found dead during daily observations. The hamsters exhibited no clinical signs of infection prior to being found dead. A post-mortem analysis identified gross and microscopic evidence of infection suggesting that unrelieved pain and/or distress may have been experienced prior to death.

6 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, 9CFR 113.102):

Agency_____ CFR_____