



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MATERIEL COMMAND
810 SCHREIDER STREET
FORT DETRICK, MARYLAND 21702-5000

December 13, 2019

(b) (6)
Vice President for Research
Texas Biomedical Research Institute
(b) (6)
San Antonio, TX 78227

Dear (b) (6) :

(b) (6), representing the Animal Care and Use Review Office, Office of Research Protections, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, conducted a site visit to the Southwest National Primate Research Center and Texas Biomedical Research Institute on 16 May 2019 to evaluate the animal care and use program and the animal care facilities. Participating individuals and results of the site visit are outlined in the enclosed checklist. Suggestions for improvement are offered in the absence of regulatory or guideline standards. These "best practices" are methods the staff observed to work well within other programs/facilities and are offered for the institute's consideration.

This AAALAC International-Accredited Animal Care and Use Program is compliant with federal Animal Welfare Regulations and the recommendations of the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Institute for Laboratory Animal Research). The staff were professional and knowledgeable. The strong collegial culture at the institute was impressive.

The Animal Care and Use Review Office recommends continued funding of the supported animal research to appropriate Department of Defense agencies.

The point of contact for this action is the undersigned at (b) (6) or (b) (6).

Sincerely,

(b) (6)
Director, Animal Care and
Use Review Office

Enclosure

CC (w/encl):

(b) (6), Attending Veterinarian
(b) (6), IACUC Manager
(b) (6), Award Principal Investigator
(b) (6), Protocol Principal Investigator
(b) (6), Contract Officer's Representative
(b) (6), Contract Specialist



COMPONENT OVERSIGHT OFFICE (COO) VISIT CHECKLIST



Site/Visit Type:	Site Visit	Site Visited:	SNPRC/Texas Biomedical Institute
Date(s) Of Visit:	16 May 2019	ACURO Protocol #:	(b) (4)
Award PI Name:	(b) (6)	Awarded Organization:	Nano Terra, Inc
Funding Agency:	USAMMDA	Species Approved:	Baboon
Protocol PI Name:	(b) (6)	Site Visitors:	(b) (6)
Protocol Title:	A Novel Strategy for Treating Peripheral Nerve Injury		

I. Names and titles of personnel present at in- and out-brief:

NAME	TITLE OR DEPARTMENT
(b) (6)	Lead Veterinarian
(b) (6)	Secondary Veterinarian
(b) (6)	Attending Veterinarian, and Ass. Dir, Veterinary Resources
(b) (6)	Behavioral Services and Vice Chair, IACUC
(b) (6)	Ass. Dir, Research Resources
(b) (6)	Ass. Director. Research Support
(b) (6)	IACUC Manager
(b) (6)	IACUC Coordinator

II. IACUC Membership and Function:

	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Appropriate constitution (at least 5 required members, or 3 required members if not PHS Assured)	X			
b. Non-affiliated members (NAM) attend meetings regularly	X			
c. Member appointments available and current	X			
d. IACUC member training program in place	X			
e. Appropriate documentation of IACUC training for all members to include alternates	X			
f. Mechanism in place for reporting welfare concerns	X			

¹ A-acceptable

MD- minor deficiencies

SD- significant deficiencies



COMPONENT OVERSIGHT OFFICE (COO) VISIT CHECKLIST



g. IACUC function document (SOP/Policy/Instruction)	X			
h. Instructions for reporting concerns prominently displayed throughout the facility	X			
i. Reported concerns were well investigated by the IACUC				X
n. Adverse events, violations, and animal welfare concerns reported to COO and documented in file	X			
j. If part-time AV, written program of veterinary care including regularly scheduled visits to the facility				X
Comments: No reported concerns for IACUC to investigate; AV is full time; No instances where NAM not present for IACUC meeting; 2 alternate NAMs for IACUC				

III: IACUC Minutes and Protocol Review:

	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Attendance records maintained either in minutes or elsewhere	X			
b. Quorum present at each meeting	X			
c. Minutes demonstrate IACUC business other than protocol review	X			
d. Documentation in minutes or elsewhere of protocol review details	X			
e. Dissenting opinions included and explained				X
f. IACUC documents and protocol records maintained for at least 3 years	X			
g. Protocols contain sufficient detail	X			
h. Annual protocol reviews conducted and documented	X			
i. Scientific justification for exceptions to AWARs and the Guide present in applicable protocols	X			
j. COO approval documents included in protocol files	X			
k. Appropriate keywords used for databases searched	X			
Dates of minutes reviewed: 18 Dec 2018, 5 Jun 2018, 14 Dec 2017, 14 Jun 2017				
Comments:				

IV: Semi-Annual Facility Inspection and Program Review (FIPR):

	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. FIPRs conducted and reports generated at least every six months	X			
b. At least two members participated in every area of the FIPR	X			
c. Non-affiliated member participation	X			

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d. Deficiencies appropriately classified as minor or significant	X			
e. Report includes a reasonable and specific plan for correction of each deficiency with correction deadlines		X		
f. Individual responsible for correction of each deficiency identified	X			
g. Report identifies all locations visited during the facility inspection and areas of the program reviewed	X			
h. Departures from the provisions of the AWARs and the Guide are identified and justified	X			
i. Minority opinions are addressed				X
j. Reports are signed by majority of IACUC members	X			
k. Documentation indicating reports are forwarded to IO	X			
Dates of FIPR reports reviewed: 18 Dec 2018, 5 Jun 2018, 14 Dec 2017, 14 Jun 2017				
Comments: no minority views documented, however, policy for how to manage minority views was in place and appropriate. Corrective actions and responsible parties were listed in the report and discussed with IACUC but dates for completion were not available in report; recommended listing expected date for completion and date of actual close-out for better tracking				

V: General:

	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Up-to-date listing of all SOPs, including most recent review date in accordance with SOP	X			
b. Comprehensive Disaster Plan in place that covers animal disposition and prioritization?	X			
c. Disaster Plan identifies essential personnel	X			
d. Disaster Plan part of the institution's overall emergency response program	X			
e. Comprehensive occupational health and safety (OHSP) plan in place	X			
f. All staff members, to include contractors, evaluated as part of the OHSP. If not, procedures are in place to ensure individuals not included in the OHSP have alternative means of evaluation	X			
g. Acceptable Psychological Well-Being Plan for NHPs in place, if applicable	X			
h. Acceptable Exercise Plan for Dogs in place, if applicable				X
i. Environmental Enrichment Plan covers for all species	X			
j. Mechanism in place to assure all protocol personnel have been trained to perform their role	X			

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k. Training records match the training requirements of the institution and IACUC	X			
Comments: The training manager was present at site visit and available for questions. Thorough safety briefing from Safety officer prior to facility tour; good records for Occupational Health and Safety Program				

V. FUNDED ANIMAL WORK:

EXTRAMURAL SITES ONLY	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Observed animal procedures are being performed as reviewed and approved by ACURO	X			
b. All personnel performing animal procedures approved in the IACUC protocol	X			
c. All changes to the protocol been reviewed and approved by the local IACUC	X			
d. All changes to the protocol been approved by ACURO	X			
Comments:				

VETERINARIAN REVIEW:

I. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Microenvironment and Macroenvironment	X			
b. Housing	X			
c. Space Recommendations	X			
d. Temperature and Humidity	X			
e. Ventilation	X			
f. Illumination	X			
g. Noise/Vibration	X			
Comments: Social housing throughout except for post-surgical healing periods and veterinary exemptions were clearly defined in records for single housing during this period				

II. BEHAVIORAL MANAGEMENT	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Structural Environment	X			
b. Social Environment	X			
Comments: Animals well-socialized and looking for treats; all animals were calm and well-acclimated to presence of staff				

III. HUSBANDRY	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Food	X			
b. Water	X			
c. Bedding	X			
d. Sanitation	X			
e. Waste Disposal	X			

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f. Pest Control	X			
g. Emergency, Holiday, and Weekend Care	X			
Comments: clean and well organized				

IV. POPULATION MANAGEMENT	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Identification and Records	X			
b. Genetics and nomenclature	X			
Comments: nice record keeping system; able to pull up requested information readily; collaborate with other primate centers to use best practices available				

V. ANIMAL PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPORTATION	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Quarantine, Stabilization, and Separation	X			
b. Surveillance, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Control of Disease	X			
Comments:				

VI. VETERINARY MEDICAL CARE	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Preventive Medicine	X			
b. Surgery	X			
c. Facilities for Aseptic Surgery	X			
d. Pain, Analgesia, and Anesthesia	X			
e. Euthanasia	X			
Comments: Clean, well-organized and well equipped for this protocol				

VII. FUNCTIONAL AREAS	A	MD	SD	N/A
a. Corridors	X			
b. Animal Room Doors	X			
c. Exterior Windows	X			
d. Floors	X			
e. Drainage	X			
f. Walls	X			
g. Ceilings	X			
h. Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)	X			
i. Power and Lighting	X			
j. Storage Areas	X			
k. Noise Control	X			
l. Facilities for Sanitizing Materials	X			
Comments:				