



Berkeley Animal Care News

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Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC)
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<https://acuc.berkeley.edu>
- 3 **Office for Laboratory Animal Care (OLAC)**
<https://www.olac.berkeley.edu>

January-March: A Critical time for UCB's Animal Care & Use Program

AAALAC is Coming!

Our next site visit by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation for Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) will take place during January-March 2019. AAALAC visits the campus every three years to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the animal care and use program - this visit is critical to maintaining our AAALAC accreditation as an outstanding animal care program. Currently, ACUC/OACU and OLAC are working with PIs to prepare for this visit. Please see the [AAALAC Preparation: Lab Self-Assessment Checklist](#) on page 3 to ensure that you and your lab are ready for the visit.

ACUC Pre-approved procedures are complete

The ACUC, in conjunction with OLAC veterinary staff, has written nearly 30 "pre-approved procedures" that describe common laboratory animal procedures. These templates have been reviewed and approved by the committee, to be used by PI's when writing protocols or amendments. These descriptions provide researchers with quick and easy guidance on how to describe and to perform common procedures. Using these procedures when you can will help expedite protocol review.

Existing ACUC pre-approved procedures can be found on the OLAC web site (CalNet ID required): OLAC > PI Resources:
<https://www.olac.berkeley.edu/?q=veterinary-care/pre-approved-procedures>

Cheers,

Eileen Lacey
ACUC Chair

Ellen Robey
ACUC Vice Chair

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Updates to ACUC Policies & Guidelines

The ACUC has recently updated several Policies and Guidelines. To read or download copies of these and all ACUC Policies and Guidelines, visit the [ACUC web site](https://acuc.berkeley.edu/guidelines.html) (<https://acuc.berkeley.edu/guidelines.html>).

- The [Policy on Fasting Animals, Special/Regulated Diets/Water/Housing](#) was updated to include new cage card and documentation requirements.
- [The Guidelines for Humane Endpoints in Animal Studies](#) now include additional requirements for monitoring moribund animals as well as an appendix with information on assessment of body condition scoring in mice and rats.

AUP FAQs

1. Does Your Protocol Require Annual Review by the ACUC?

- Protocols with USDA covered species (e.g., NHP, rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs, voles, wild mice, dogs, bats) AND/OR Department of Defense (or sub-agency) funding must undergo an annual review. This is in addition to the de Novo review of protocols that occurs every 3 years.
- Federal regulations (AWA 2.31.d.5 and DOD 3.2.c) require that the annual review is completed by the month in which original approval of your protocol occurred.

2. Why do I get reminders to submit an annual renewal if I do not have USDA covered species AND/OR Department of Defense funding?

- These reminders are generated automatically by eProtocol. The software changes needed to stop these reminders are still under development.
- If you receive an automated renewal notice and do not have USDA covered species and/or DoD funding, you can disregard the message. NOTE: you will still have the option to submit an annual renewal in eProtocol but should NOT submit that document.
- If you have any questions about the annual review process, please contact the OACU.

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AAALAC Preparation: Lab Self-Assessment Checklist

Animal Use Protocol

- A copy of the currently approved protocol is available to all lab personnel (paper or electronic).
- All personnel working with animals are listed on an approved protocol.
- All animal procedures that are currently being performed are listed on an approved protocol and are performed as described in the protocol.
- All compounds (e.g., test compounds, anesthetics, analgesics, etc.) used in animals are described in the currently approved protocol.
- All personnel working with animals are familiar with the procedures described in the protocol and understand that only procedures listed in the protocol can be performed.
- All locations where animal procedures are performed are listed on the currently approved protocol.

Documentation of Training

- All personnel are aware of the [training requirements and opportunities](#) for animal users.
- Any training provided by lab personnel is documented and those documents are available to site visitors. [Click here for our Lab Training Record Example!](#)
- All personnel are up to date on their CITI on-line training
- All personnel that are performing euthanasia, anesthesia, or surgery have been certified by OLAC and documentation of certification (email) is available to site visitors.

Occupational Health & Safety

- All personnel are aware of the [Animal Occupational Health & Safety Program](#) and understand the health risks associated with their exposure to animals in a research or teaching setting.
- All personnel have participated in the Occupational Health Surveillance System ([OHSS](#))
- Anesthetic gases are properly scavenged.

Procedures and Procedure Space

- Locations where animal procedures are performed are clean, free of clutter, and only contain items that can be sanitized.
- All drugs, sutures, and dated medical supplies are within their expiration date.
- All controlled substances are stored and their use documented in accordance with [EH&S policy](#). Controlled substance use logs will be available to site visitors.
- Surgical monitoring records and anesthetic records are maintained in accordance with [ACUC policy](#) and are available to site visitors.
- Written records are maintained for all administration of analgesia, with the dosage and frequency described in the currently approved protocol.

Animal Housing Areas (see [ACUC Guidelines](#))

- Breeding colonies are maintained appropriately, which includes assuring that cage housing density does not exceed recommendations (i.e., no overcrowded cages).
- Cage cards are OLAC Standard or Breeding Cage Cards. Request cage cards online via the "Cage Card Order Form" on OLAC [website](#).