



Berkeley Animal Care News

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Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC)
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Chair's Message

As research on campus ramps up, PIs should make sure that the procedures and personnel listed on their AUP(s) are up to date. This is especially recommended if experiments were paused for a period of time during the pandemic. If amendments are needed, they must be submitted to allow sufficient time for ACUC approval prior to implementation. We also recommend that returning lab members are re-trained or re-familiarized with procedures prior to beginning work again.

The ACUC reviewed and endorsed the updated/revised Disaster Response Plan as drafted by OLAC and the ACUC Subcommittee. This document will be available on the OLAC website soon and an email will be sent to all PIs with the link to the document.

Regards,

Eileen Lacey
ACUC Chair

Ellen Robey
ACUC Vice Chair

RESOURCES

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

Participate in the AWIC Literature Search Workshop

Wondering how to conduct an appropriate literature search for your AUP? The Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) offers a free online workshop. Participants will learn about conducting literature searches, the history of animal welfare law and the specific responsibilities of researchers and IACUCs. Register here: <https://workspace.oregonstate.edu/course/meeting-the-information-requirements-of-the-animal-welfare-act?hsLang=en>.

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ACUC Facility Inspections

The ACUC has begun conducting semi-annual facility inspections again, after putting them on hold from March-August due to the pandemic. Inspections are required in all spaces where animal work is currently conducted, and where animal work was conducted at any point within the past 6 months. OACU staff will reach out to PIs prior to each inspection to update the list of active spaces and coordinate access to lab areas.

At this stage of campus re-opening, the ACUC is not conducting inspections of proposed new animal use spaces.

New AVMA Euthanasia Guidelines

The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) released the latest version of its Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals this year. Of particular note is the updated CO2 flow-rate guidelines for rodent euthanasia, which have changed from 10-30% chamber volume/minute to 30-70% chamber volume/minute. All PIs using CO2 for rodent euthanasia are expected to update the Animal Disposition section during their next protocol submission. We also strongly encourage use of OLAC's pre-approved euthanasia procedure: https://www.olac.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/doc/adult_and_neonatal_mouse_and_rat_euthanasia.10.15.2020.pdf.

The updated AVMA guidelines can be viewed at: https://www.avma.org/sites/default/files/2020-01/2020_Euthanasia_Final_1-15-20.pdf

Cryopreserving Animal Lines

Investigators are responsible for maintaining their critical animal lines through cryopreservation. The university cannot be held responsible for saving animal lives over human lives in an emergency. Cryopreservation resources include:

- <https://mmrrc.ucdavis.edu/cryo-archive-from-the-mmrrc-at-uc-davis/>
- <https://www.criver.com/sites/default/files/resources/MouseEmbryoandSpermCryopreservationTechnicalSheet.pdf>
- <https://www.jax.org/jax-mice-and-services/cryo-and-strain-donation/cryorecovery>

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eProtocol Form Updates

The eProtocol Animal Use Protocol (AUP) form was updated to provide a clearer and more comprehensive format. These changes will make it easier for PIs to identify which information is required in each section and should result in fewer reviewer questions moving forward.

During your next amendment or continuing (deNovo) review submission, the updated form will ask you to re-enter certain protocol details that are organized differently in the new versus the old versions of eProtocol. The majority of existing text in your AUP will automatically be moved to the new form by the eProtocol system. The only areas that will need information re-entered are those in which the fields have been altered during the update, and they will only need to be re-entered once.

To make this process easier, we suggest that you download a copy of your current AUP so you can copy/paste any existing information that needs to go into the new version. You can download the current version of your AUP by following the step-by-step directions at: [PDF and Print a Protocol](#). To view a table of which form questions/fields have been affected, please visit https://acuc.berkeley.edu/eprotocol_update.html.

Policy & Guideline Updates

All ACUC Policies and Guidelines are available to on the ACUC website (<https://acuc.berkeley.edu/guidelines.html>).

- [Animal Care and Use Program Policy](#) - revised 5/26/2020
- [Post-Approval Monitoring Policy](#) - NEW 6/10/2020
- [Euthanasia Guidelines](#) - revised 9/9/2020
- [Training and Education Policy](#) - revised 11/13/2020