



Cornell University
Office of
Research Integrity and Assurance

During the weekend of October 3-4 a significant custom upgrade of the current eSirius Animal Protocol system will be implemented. While the upgrade is taking place, the entire eSirius system will be off-line and unavailable. Please plan accordingly. Every effort will be made to minimize the time that the system is off-line, and further delays are unlikely, however unexpected system problems may occur. In this case, we will let you know via email immediately.

Over the past six months, a team of eSirius users (PIs not affiliated with the IACUC, research staff, IACUC members, CARE and IACUC staff) and the project manager for eSirius, have worked together to develop these changes. The changes are designed to reduce redundancy and extra paperwork, streamline the flow of questions asked, and to provide more clear instructions to PIs in writing their protocols.

We welcome your comments and feedback on the changes. Please send any comments directly to me at av234@cornell.edu

Expected Timeline of events:

Dates	Event
Sept 17	IACUC meeting.
Sept 18	Submission deadline for Oct 22 IACUC meeting.
Sept 30- Oct 13	Online training sessions: Several live sessions will be scheduled. A recording of the training sessions and documentation will be available on the IACUC site after Oct 1. Training sessions have been scheduled for: Sept 30, 9 am and 4 pm Oct 1, 9 am Oct 5, 9 am Oct 6, 4 pm Details on how to log on to the training will be sent via email prior to Sept 30 and will also be available on the IACUC website at www.iacuc.cornell.edu
Oct 3-4	Changes to eSirius implemented. System is offline.
Oct 5-7	For protocols and amendments submitted Aug 22- Sept 18, IACUC pre-review comments will be returned to PI. All approved and pending protocols will now be in the new protocol format. IACUC staff will provide active assistance to PIs, as needed, to advise them of the changes to their protocols, answer questions and resolve any issues.
Oct 15	PI responses to pre-review comments will be due for the Oct 22 meeting. <i>(Please note the longer timeline for submission of responses)</i>
Oct 16	Deadline for submission for Nov 19 IACUC meeting.

If you are considering submitting a protocol or amendment to the IACUC in the near future, we strongly recommend that you attend one of the information sessions, so that you are aware of the changes that you will see on your incomplete or pending protocols.

List of changes being implemented:

- eSirius Page “instructions” – Instructions are in line with what the Cornell IACUC currently expects to see in protocols.
- **Significant process and content changes:**
 - **Electronic Signature submission:** PIs will no longer need to print and submit paper copies of the signature forms to the IACUC.
 - **Exemptions from standards of care:** PIs will no longer need to submit paper copies of exemption requests to the IACUC. Exemptions will be incorporated into the protocol form and will be approved by the IACUC as part of the protocol approval process.
 - **Elimination of duplicate requests** for euthanasia drug information in the drug (13.10) and euthanasia (13.11) sections
 - **Client owned animals** are asked about in 13.3 Species Source. Client consent forms should be attached here.
- **Significant changes to questions, and their order, in the following sections:**
 - 8. Antibody Sources
 - 13.7.2.1 Non-surgical Procedures
 - 13.7.3 Surgery
 - 13.7.3.1 Surgical Procedure, and
 - 13.8 Pain and Distress.
- **Updates to the surgery, restraints, and drug lists**
- **Creation of Help documents linked to eSirius:**
 - A series of help documents have been developed to provide guidance to PIs in writing narrative sections of the protocol, such as “Scientific design”, “Overview of procedures” etc. in line with the expectations of the Cornell IACUC.
 - In addition, an “Amendment Guide” has been developed to assist PIs in correctly submitting amendments to various sections of their protocols. We hope that this guide will help reduce duplication of effort and reduce the timeline for review and approval.
 - PIs can access the specific help document from the relevant section of eSirius.
 - Links to the Help documents will also be available on Oct 5 on the IACUC website at iacuc.cornell.edu.