News and Information from the IACUC Office
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Need help with an IACUC protocol literature search?

In preparing an IACUC “D” or “E” level protocol for review, do you sometimes have questions about how to do the required literature search for the 3 R’s (Reduction, Refinement, and Replacement)—which databases to search, what keywords to include, how to prepare a search report, and so on?

The Cornell University Library is pleased to provide advice and assistance by telephone, email, or in person. A trained research librarian at the Veterinary Library is ready and willing to provide consultation services for a quick question, review of your existing search strategy, or even performing the search with you in person. You can contact a librarian at any convenient time at 607-253-3499 or vetref@cornell.edu. The Veterinary Library is located at S2 160 Veterinary Education Center in the Veterinary Complex. This service is available to all Cornell researchers, irrespective of their affiliation with the Vet School.

“CARE SOPs” are now “ACUPs” or Animal Care and Use Procedures

The term “CARE SOP” has been replaced by ACUP to better reflect the nature and multidisciplinary background behind these procedures. As before, all ACUPs are approved by the Cornell IACUC and are applicable to the Cornell University (Ithaca campus) animal care and use program. If a researcher wishes to employ procedures that deviate from the ACUPs, s/he must describe those deviations in the eSirius protocol and get approval from the IACUC prior to implementation.

For PIs whose approved protocols mention the term “CARE SOP”, there is no need to make any changes to the protocols to accommodate the name change to ACUPs. However if a 3-year renewal is submitted to the IACUC office with the use of term “CARE SOP”, the IACUC office, will, with the permission of the PI, make an administrative change to the protocol to correct the terminology.

The following Animal Care and Use Procedures (ACUPs) have been updated and are available on the Cornell Center for Animal Resources and Education (CARE) web site.

**ACUP 308 Avian Euthanasia**

This ACUP describes acceptable methods for euthanasia of avian species. The ACUP provides information on acceptable methods and materials (including drugs and dosages) for euthanasia, safety precautions, and CARE contact information for emergency veterinary care. **There are two primary changes in this ACUP:**
- The definition of free living birds has been modified to comply with AVMA Guidelines. As gestation is unknown in wild eggs, and the embryo is self-contained until hatched, non-pipped eggs need not be treated as “live”. This is in line with the AVMA recommendation on euthanizing embryonated eggs.

- Additional information has been provided on the use of inhalant gases for euthanasia, including guidance on the prolonged periods of time required for gases to be effective.

**ACUP 517 Swine Husbandry.** This ACUP describes routine husbandry procedures for swine and is intended for all staff members who perform routine swine care. Individual facilities may have supplemental SOPs that further describe procedures specific to their location. The ACUP provides information on routine management and preventative health care appropriate for different life stages, acclimation and quarantine, enrichment, pest control, waste management, safety precautions, and contact information for emergency veterinary care. The primary change to this ACUP is the consolidation of two previous ACUPS: 517 (Swine Husbandry) & 613 (Preventative Health Program for Swine).

**ACUP 711 Sharp Precautions.** ALL MANAGERS: PLEASE POST IN AREAS WHERE SHARPS ARE USED. This ACUP describes acceptable practices to prevent injury from sharps and is intended for use by all personnel working with animals, animal products, or items contaminated with animal products. The ACUP provides information on the storage and record keeping required for needles/syringes, tips for the safe use and disposal of needles and sharps, the use and disposal of biohazard sharps containers, and procedures to follow if injury from a sharp occurs. The primary change to this ACUP is the notation to managers to post this notice where sharps are being used. No procedural changes were made.

**IACUC Policy on Review and approval of applications (protocols, amendments, annual reviews) submitted to the IACUC.**

The IACUC must review all proposed animal activities covered by Cornell Policy 1.4, in accordance with the requirements of the policy and the regulatory requirements governing such animal use. This new policy describes the types of animal activities that require IACUC review, the review process and the essential elements of IACUC review. Researchers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with this policy in order to better understand the scope, essential elements and the process and timeline for IACUC review of applications.

**Assistance with eSirius and other protocol-related activities**

Animal users needing assistance with eSirius in the course of working on their protocols should call the IACUC office [Rob Felt (rf243@cornell.edu) or Christine Bellezza (cab37@cornell.edu)]. For procurement or barcoding related questions, please contact Marian Hansen (mh286@cornell.edu). The IACUC office also holds monthly office hours to provide hands-on assistance with eSirius and to answer protocol-related questions. The schedule for the hands-on sessions is available at: [http://www.iacuc.cornell.edu/esirius/workshops.htm](http://www.iacuc.cornell.edu/esirius/workshops.htm).

Office hours are typically offered during the second week of the month and include members of the IACUC staff and a CARE Veterinarian. We encourage you to take advantage of these office hours to get hands-on help and guidance with protocols and amendments. Since attendance at these sessions has been growing steadily, we recommend that you inform the IACUC staff ([cab37@cornell.edu](mailto:cab37@cornell.edu)) if you plan to attend, so that they can plan accordingly.

If you have any questions or comments regarding these or any other topics relevant to the IACUC, please contact the IACUC office at [iacuc@cornell.edu](mailto:iacuc@cornell.edu). Also visit the IACUC website ([www.iacuc.cornell.edu](http://www.iacuc.cornell.edu)) for updates and other information pertinent to research or teaching with animals at Cornell University.

The IACUC review timeline is available at [http://www.iacuc.cornell.edu/requirements/IACUC%20timeline.pdf](http://www.iacuc.cornell.edu/requirements/IACUC%20timeline.pdf)