Veterinary Care for Research Animals

Adequate veterinary care must be provided to all animals used in our research program. At the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine (DLAM) veterinary staff is responsible for the program of veterinary care for all animals covered under the University’s Animal Welfare Assurance Statement. It is the responsibility of all Principal Investigators who use research animals to contact the DLAM staff to report any animal health problems as well as any unexpected hatching of poultry.

Research staff must notify DLAM of all sick or injured animals. The DLAM veterinary staff will provide veterinary care/oversight for all animals used in research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. This provision also extends to clinical abnormalities believed to be the result of experimental manipulations unless these conditions, and the appropriate therapeutic interventions, have been defined and approved by the IACUC animal care and use protocol review process, or the abnormalities are part of the expected phenotype of the animal. If DLAM veterinarians recommend procedural changes, the investigator must submit the revised regimen for review and approval by the IACUC. DLAM should also be notified of all unexpected deaths in a timely fashion, so that appropriate diagnostic work-up can be performed. Necropsy of all unexpected deaths in USDA covered species is desirable. Please bring this matter to the attention of your staff, and we look forward to your cooperation and collaboration.

The DLAM veterinary staff can be reached by calling 966-2906. Please call this number for non-emergency cases. If you have a veterinary emergency, you can call the DLAM veterinary services pager (216-1235) and enter a phone number at which the responder can reach you when you hear the tone.