



**OFFICE OF ANIMAL CARE AND USE (OACU)
INFORMATIONAL MEMO
August 2017**

The purpose of this memo is to provide Principal Investigators (PI), research staff, and administrative managers with updates about the UNC-CH Animal Care Program. New or recently revised Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Policies and Standards are included at the end of the memo. Please share this information with your research staff and feel free to contact the Office of Animal Care and Use (OACU) staff if you have questions about any items in this memo.

Results of 2017 AAALACi Site Visit

UNC-CH received its triennial AAALACi site visit on May 30 – June 2. Site visitors performed an extremely detailed review of all aspects of our animal care and use program and provided very positive feedbacks during the exit briefing. AAALACi recommended several Suggestions for Improvement (SFIs) and the institution has already addressed each of them. Although we will not receive the final, formal accreditation status until after the AAALACi Council meeting in mid-September, the site visit team will be recommending continued full accreditation to Council. Thank you to everyone who participated in the site visit. Your hard work continues to ensure that we have an excellent animal program.

This Informational Memo highlights three of the SFIs identified during the site visit. While all SFIs have already been incorporated into the standards and procedures of the various groups, investigators should be aware of these changes in particular.

The site visitors suggested the institution provide clarifying guidance to ensure uniform use of F/AIR canisters for isoflurane waste. To address this, EHS has issued an updated SOP for the handling of isoflurane and charcoal canisters. A newly created FAQ sheet for the use and disposal of F/AIR canisters can be found [here](#). This FAQ sheet along with the Isoflurane SOP will also be provided during laboratory inspections.

The site visitors recommended the institution provide additional guidance concerning the use of tribromoethanol (i.e., TBE or Avertin). The new standard issued by the IACUC can be reviewed [here](#). These guidelines ensure the proper and consistent preparation, storage, and time to expiration of TBE for safe usage and will be noted during IACUC inspections.

The site visitors recommended increased oversight of eyewash stations, specifically the use of protective caps. EHS has modified the inspection citations to include eye wash caps in response to this suggestion. Both EHS and IACUC inspectors will now note the status of the eye wash caps during inspection.

New and Updated IACUC Policies, Standards and Standard Operating Procedures

The following information, formularies, DCM SOP, templates and cage cards have been revised or newly instituted since the last IACUC Informational Memo.

1. REVISED University Standards:
 - a. [University Standard for Food Water Restriction Deprivation in Rats, Mice and Ferrets](#)
 - b. [University Standard on Social Housing of Research Animals](#)
 - c. [University Standard on Environmental Enrichment for Research Animals](#)
 - d. [University Standard for Exercise and Socialization of Dogs](#)
 - e. [University Standard for Rodent Carcass Disposal](#)
 - f. [University Standard for significant changes to protocols handled via veterinary review](#)
 - g. [University Standard for Amendments and Other Protocol Changes](#)
 - h. [University Standard on Humane Endpoints in Rodents](#)
 - i. [University Standard for Preparation Storage and Use of Tribromoethanol](#)
2. REVISED Training Materials:
 - a. [Basic Rat Handling and Technique Training Materials](#)
 - b. [Basic Mouse Handling and Technique Training Materials](#)
 - c. [Mouse Cage Density Policy Lecture](#)
 - d. [Laboratory Animal Coordinator Lecture](#)
 - e. [Isoflurane Fact Sheet](#)

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