



Procedural

Federal regulations and the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (*Guide*) require institutions to ensure compliance according to IACUC approved protocols through Post-Approval Monitoring (PAM). A variety of mechanisms can be used to facilitate ongoing protocol assessment and regulatory compliance. At UNC this federal mandate is fulfilled through a “Procedural” which is conducted by OACU TCC.

Office of Animal Care and Use (OACU) representatives will meet with one of your experienced laboratory personnel who is currently performing any of the procedures indicated above.

- The “Procedural” will consist of conversation between a surgeon/researcher within the lab (i.e., LACs, senior surgeons, or others actively performing the procedure or training lab members) and an OACU member regarding the procedure.
- The use of a live animal is **NOT** required. Instead, the surgeon/researcher will set up for and present the procedure from the instrument and animal preparation stage to recovery/euthanasia as it would be performed on a live animal. The use of photos, slides, tools, demonstrations, etc. are all acceptable methods for illustrating techniques used during a procedure.
- The OACU member will follow the demonstration with a briefing to include:
 - Potential problems identified during the procedure along with suggestions for possible protocol amendment
 - Possible deficiencies noted with suggestions about how to resolve them before the follow-up inspection
 - Information regarding current issues in lab animal medicine (e.g., new analgesics or anesthetics) or updates in IACUC & DLAM policies and procedures
- A report including details of the “Procedural” and suggestions for improvement will be sent to the LAC, PI, and surgeon.

- Upon successful completion of this first “Procedural”, future combined sessions will occur no more than once per 3 year period (unless there has been a significant turnover of laboratory personnel).

All applicable items stated below will be discussed and evaluated during the procedural session.

1) Surgical area:

- A. Cleanliness
- B. Ability to sanitize surfaces
- C. Separate areas for surgical preparation, recovery, and surgical procedure
- d) Proper preparation of caging for animal while under an anesthetic

2) Adherence to approved procedures:

- A. Name and purpose of drugs administered
- B. Dosage and/or volume of drugs administered
- c) Route of administration
- C. Frequency of drug administration
- D. Surgeon understands and confirms appropriate plane of anesthesia

3) Surgical preparation of animal:

- a) Proper eye lubrication
- b) Adequate removal of hair with appropriate technique
- c) Application of skin disinfectants with proper technique and supplies

4) Surgeon and sterile field preparation:

- a) Donning of required personal protective equipment
- b) Adherence to IACUC Guidelines regarding sterilization of instruments and packs
- c) Comprehension of what objects or materials comprise a sterile field
- d) *Proper use and application of sterile gloves (if required)
- d) Proper techniques for manipulation of non-sterile objects
- f) *Application and use of sterile drape

5) Evaluation of surgical techniques:

- a) Proper quantities, selection and use of instrumentation
- b) Proper use of materials (eg. appropriate suture)
- b) Proficiency and skill

*Some microsurgery procedures do not require the donning of sterile gloves or application of sterile drapes.