

IACUC Policy on Documentation of Training in Biomedical Research Techniques

7/29/15MW

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The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals 8th edition, p 17:

“Training should be tailored to the particular needs of research groups; however, all research groups should receive training in animal care and use legislation, IACUC function, ethics of animal use and the concepts of the Three Rs, methods for reporting concerns about animal use, occupational health and safety issues pertaining to animal use, animal handling, aseptic surgical technique, anesthesia and analgesia, euthanasia, and other subjects, as required by statute. Continuing education programs should be offered to reinforce training and provide updates that reflect changes in technology, legislation, and other relevant areas. Frequency of training opportunities should ensure that all animal users have adequate training before beginning animal work.”

To facilitate research, this requirement is met through didactic training within the CITI Program courses, such as, aseptic surgery and rodent research bundles. To reinforce the training provided by the CITI program and provide continuing education to research staff, Animal and Veterinary Services (AVS) staff will require online video training through the JABSOM Library's access to Journal of Visualized Experiments (JOVE) for the following:

- Animal Handling/Restraint
- Aseptic Surgical Technique
- Proper Use of the Gas Anesthesia Machines, Anesthesia Induction, and Maintenance
- Injections
- Blood Collection
- Oral Gavage
- For lesser used techniques such as retro-orbital injection, AVS Vet staff will follow up with investigators to watch the corresponding JOVE video.

Documentation of Proficiency

All individuals listed on an approved IACUC protocol and who require access into AVS operated vivariums must complete AVS training on vivarium procedures and policies and orientation, prior to being granted access into the facility. In addition, Occupational Health and Safety training is required for all individuals listed on an approved IACUC protocol and who require access into AVS operated vivariums. Euthanasia via carbon dioxide overdose and cervical dislocation will be demonstrated to all staff during orientation. For euthanasia of rodent pups via decapitation, AVS Vet staff will contact the PI for demonstration of proficiency. Staff should continue to train under their Principal Investigators to become competent in the techniques listed on their protocols. During Post-Approval Monitoring (PAM), staff will demonstrate proficiency in techniques listed on their protocol. If there are concerns that are secondary to the above techniques noted during daily health checks, AVS Vet staff will contact the Investigator to work with the staff on training and documentation of proficiency.

Documentation of training from workshops or prior research facilities may serve in lieu of demonstration and copies should be forwarded to the AVS veterinary staff. If untrained personnel are observed and/or reported to have participated or engaged in animal activities covered by an approved protocol, the approval to the conduct the activity may be revoked, the work suspended, and a formal investigation into the matter initiated by the IACUC. Principal Investigators who wish to have their staff document proficiencies prior to PAM and should contact the AVS Staff Veterinarian, Michael Wong, DVM wongmich@hawaii.edu to schedule an appointment.