Offspring & Non-Traditional Procurement Policy

PHS Policy implicitly requires that institutions establish mechanisms to document and monitor numbers of animals acquired and used, including any animals that are euthanized because they are not needed. Not complying with these regulations could jeopardize your protocol status. The IACUC is authorized to take action to preserve compliance with federal regulations, including suspensions or termination of animal research of non-compliant investigators.

Reporting Offspring to the IACUC Office

1. A report of the number of animals (offspring, field capture, or non-traditional procurement), for each pain category is required to be submitted to the IACUC office monthly if you are currently breeding/procuring animals or quarterly if you are not currently breeding/procuring animals.
   a. The Non-Traditional Procurement of Research Animals form can be found on the IACUC website www.researchcompliance.uc.edu/iacuc or through this link: Offspring Reporting. The completed forms can be emailed to IACUC@ucmail.uc.edu, faxed to 558-3539, or sent through campus mail to location 0572.
   b. The completed form must be submitted on a monthly basis if breeding is ongoing. Tables, handwritten reports or attachments will not be accepted.

Consequences of Not Reporting Offspring

1. If the IACUC office has not received a report they will send a notice to the PI via email to remind the PI that a report has not been received.
2. If the IACUC office has not received a report after the first notice, they will send a second notice to the PI via email to remind the PI that a report is required. The IACUC has mandated that the PI’s Department Chair be copied on the 2nd notice.
3. If the IACUC office has not received an report after the second notice, they will send a third notice to the PI via email to remind the PI that an report is required. The IACUC has mandated that the PI’s Department Chair be copied on the 3rd notice.
4. If a response is not received by the time the 3rd notice is sent to the PI, the incident will be reported to the committee as noncompliance and may jeopardize the status of the protocol.

Tips for Offspring Reporting

1. Animals are to be reported in the pain category they will be used. Refer to the approved protocol section 13a. The following is a list of examples for each pain category.
   a) Category C procedures involving no more pain/distress to animals than that associated with an injection
Examples:
   i. Breeding animals
   ii. CO2 or anesthetic overdose that results in the euthanasia of the animal
   iii. Injection of nonirritating substances, such as intradermal, subcutaneous, intramuscular, and intraperitoneal
   iv. Noninvasive physiologic measurements such as indirect blood pressure or rectal temperature
   v. Phlebotomy from peripheral veins that does not require cut down
   vi. Behavioral observations

   b) Category D procedures involving pain/distress to animals for which appropriate anesthetic, analgesic, or sedative drugs will be used

   Examples:
   i. Terminal Surgery is considered a painful procedure which is alleviated by anesthesia. This includes tissue harvest, cervical dislocation or decapitation while under anesthesia.
   ii. Survival Surgery where appropriate anesthetics and analgesics are used. Most procedures, even minor surgeries, require the use of pre-operative and/or post-operative analgesics.

   c) Category E procedures involving pain/distress to animals for which the use of appropriate anesthetics, analgesics, or tranquilizing drugs would adversely affect the procedures, results, or interpretations of the experiments.

   Examples:
   i. Food or water deprivation beyond that necessary for normal pre-surgical preparation.
   ii. Prolonged Restraint greater that the required for an injection.
   iii. Noxious electrical shock that is not immediately escapable.
   iv. Paralysis or immobility in a conscious animal.
   v. Freund’s Complete Adjuvant used for antibody production may cause results ranging from momentary or slight pain to severe pain depending on the product, procedure, and species. Due to the variability it is generally treated as painful.

2. Common mistakes with reporting numbers:
   a) Reporting everything as Category C because no invasive studies have been performed on the animals yet. Report the category the animal will be used in; not the category the animal currently falls into.
   b) Reporting the animals in a category not approved on the protocol. Please check the protocol to make sure you are reporting in the correct pain category.