

IACUC 101
Role and Functions of the IACUC
2025

Role and Functions of the IACUC

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Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
with thanks to Molly Greene, Marky Pitts and Mary Lou James

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Key references
Definition of Program
Role of the IACUC

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Role of the IACUC

"§2.31 The Chief Executive Officer of the research facility shall appoint an (IACUC) to

assess, oversee, monitor, evaluate*

"the research facility's animal program, facilities, and procedures."

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- "assess the research facility's ..." (USDA)
- "oversee the institution's ..." (PHS)
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- "responsible for assessment and oversight of the ..." (Guide)
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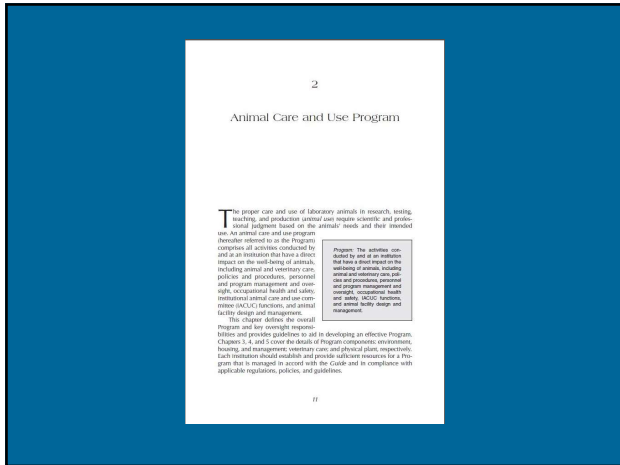
"... facility's animal program ..."

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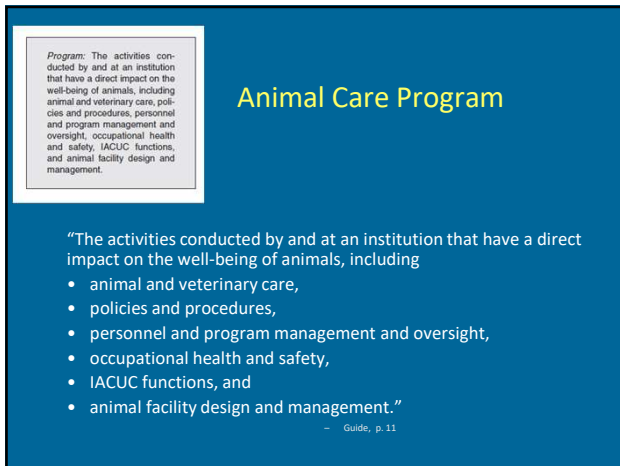
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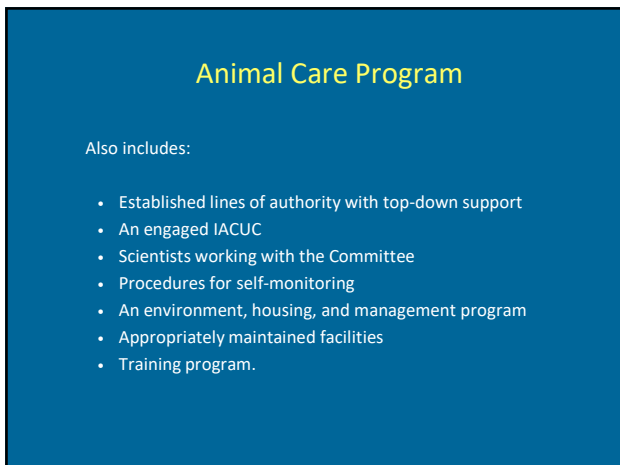
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Animal Care and Use Program

- Regulations, Policies, Principles
- Disaster Planning/Emergency Preparedness

Environment, Housing, and Management

- Terrestrial Animals
- Aquatic Animals

Veterinary Care

- Animal Procurement /Transportation
- Clinical Care and Management
- Pain and Distress
- Euthanasia

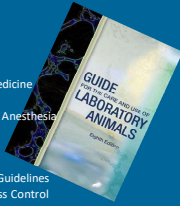
Physical Plant

- Functional Areas
- Special Facilities

Program Management
Program Oversight

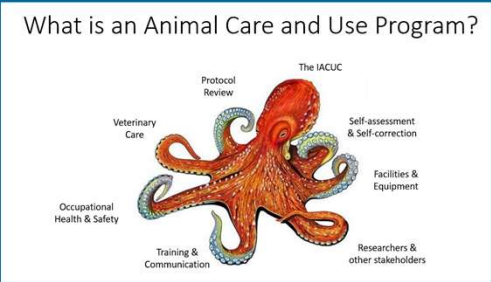
Preventive Medicine
Surgery
Analgesia and Anesthesia

Construction Guidelines
Security/Access Control



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What is an Animal Care and Use Program?



An animal care program is like an octopus, with the legs representing the different areas and responsibilities - when they aren't communicating, you can have a big floppy mess, but when they work together you have one of the most graceful animals in the ocean.

Shannon Reynolds
Allen Institute

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Animal Care Program

"Is in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations;
can assure the public of quality animal care;
minimize burdens on the research teams; and
facilitate scientific research."

Defining the Animal Care and Use Program,
EP Sandgren, LabAnimal, 34:10, June 2005.

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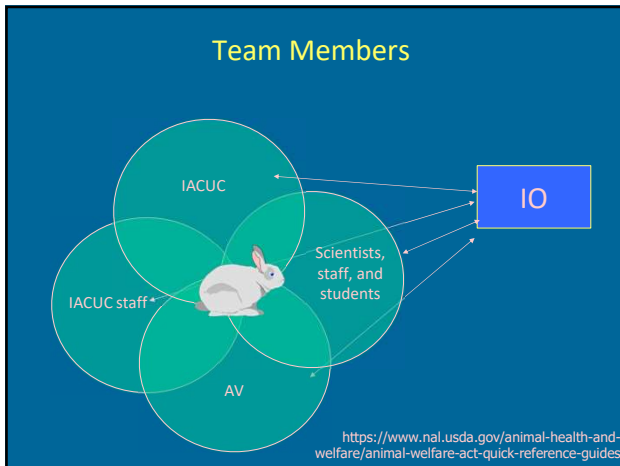
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Animal Care Programs
Key Participants

i.e., Team Members

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IACUC Members

CATEGORY	USDA	PHS & VA	Guide	Ag G	DoD
Veterinarian with program authority	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
• training or experience in lab animal science and medicine	✓	✓	✓		✓
• qualified in agricultural animal medicine and vet medicine				✓	
Nonaffiliated	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓(✓)
Scientist		✓	✓	✓	
• w/ expertise in ag research or teaching involving ag animals				✓	
• w/ expertise in animal, dairy, or poultry & mgmnt of ag animals				✓	
Nonscientist		✓		✓	✓
Chair	✓				
Minimum	3	5		5	5

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Nonscientist		✓		✓	✓
Chair	✓				
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Nonscientist		✓		✓	✓
Chair	✓				
Minimum	3	5		5	5

- Duly constituted
- Chair?
- Quorum – half + 1
- No more than 3 from an administrative unit
- Alternates – by category not name is okay
- Non-voting – one is either a member or not a member
- Who can serve as chair?

<https://olaw.nih.gov/guidance/topic-index>

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Role of the IACUC

"The overriding goal should be to facilitate centralized, uniform, and high quality oversight of the institution's animal care program."

Ag Guide, p. 1

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Role of the IACUC

Begin with the expectation of responsible and ethical behavior from all parties involved and work from a position of trust between the IACUC and the investigators.

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“responsible for **oversight** and **evaluation** of the ...” (Guide)

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IACUC Functions

Assess, oversee, monitor, evaluate the care and use of animals

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IACUC Functions

Assess, oversee, monitor, evaluate the care and use of animals

1. Conduct semiannual review of program and facilities
2. Review protocols, amendments, and modifications
3. Review concerns
4. Make recommendations
5. Suspend activities
6. Assess personnel qualifications and training
7. Prepare reports & maintain records
8. Monitor the occupational health and safety program
9. Develop policies
10. Advise on environment, housing, and management
11. Review security/emergency/disaster/crisis plans
12. Review veterinary medical care

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3. Review concerns



REPORT ANIMAL CONCERNS

If you have concerns about an animal's health or care, contact any of the following:

- 517-884-8527 Campus Animal Resources
- 517-388-1078 South Campus Animal Farms
- 517-432-8103 Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee
- 517-355-2222 MSU Police after hours, weekend, holiday
- 911 Emergency
- 800-763-0764 Misconduct Hotline

MSU requires that all research and teaching animals receive the best possible care.

Reports can be made anonymously. No one shall be discriminated against or be subject to reprisal for reporting concerns or concerns regarding MSU animals.

AnimalCare.msu.edu

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IACUC Functions

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IACUC Functions

5. **Suspend activities**

"Be authorized to suspend an activity involving animals ..."

Suspension requires a vote of the majority of a quorum present at a convened meeting

Think about it –

Temporary 'suspension'

Caution ...

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IACUC Functions

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IACUC Functions

11. Review security/emergency/disaster/crisis plans

"In the event of an emergency, institutional security personnel and fire or police officials should be able to reach people responsible for the animals."

"Emergency procedures for handling special facilities or operations should be prominently posted."

"A disaster plan that takes into account both personnel and animals should be prepared"

"Security features, such as card-key systems, electronic surveillance, and alarms ... a perimeter fence or other means."

"An alternative or emergency power supply should be available."

"Institutions should also consider the threat that criminal activity..."

From the Guide

Then there's the pandemic...
Business continuity plans

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IACUC Functions

12. Review veterinary medical care

- Does the AV walk through the facility on a regular basis?
- Is there a mechanism for reporting sick/dead animals to the veterinarians?
- Do all staff know how to call the veterinarians no matter what the hour?
- Are appropriate procedural and health records maintained?
- How are infectious diseases monitored and controlled?
- Do animals receive appropriate care / pain relieving drugs during and after procedures?
- Is euthanasia performed according to the AVMA recommendations?

See www.ACLAM.org/position statements

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IACUC Functions

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In summary

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In summary

IACUC Functions Summarized

Be aware of, understand,
and
approve or endorse

(almost) everything

that goes on in the facility with
regard to the use of animals in
research and teaching!

See 9 CFR 2.31(c) & IV.B.

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In summary

Understand that an animal care program is

"the activities conducted by and at an institution that have a direct impact on the well-being of animals, ..."

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In summary

You need to build a reference library:

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In summary

And remember:

It's not your program;
this requires a team effort.

<https://www.nal.usda.gov/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-welfare-act-quick-reference-guides>

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INSTITUTIONAL & IACUC REQUIREMENTS *

	SOURCE	Guides 1-7	PHS	USDA	DOD	VA
1. REQUIREMENT						
1. As applicable: PHS Animal Welfare Assurance; USDA Registration; AAALAC International accreditation.			IV.A	\$230.a	4.e, 5.e.1, 6.b	4a(4), 4b(3), 7e
2. Establish a Committee: Membership, orientation, resources, and training. Provide resources for an animal care and use program.	Chap.1.2.1	IV.A.3.a-c, B.1.6	\$231.a	4b.4, 4.e.1, 5.1	3, 4a(1), 5a(1), 6	3, 4a(1), 5a(1), 6
3. Semianual review of programs, inspections, and Report to the IO.	Chap.2.1	IV.B.1.3	\$231.c.1.3	41.3, 8.a.1	8(1), App E	
4. Review activities (protocols) involving animals. Review of new and continuing activities. Renew/approve modifications to activities. Conduct postapproval monitoring.	Chap.2.1	IV.B.6.7, C.1.7, C.1.3	\$231.c.4	411.2.8.4, 5.4.1.2	8(2), g	
5. Review concerns involving animals.	Chap.2.1	IV.B.8	\$231.c.4, 7.a.9	7.a.9	8c	
6. Make recommendations to the IO.	Chap. 1	IV.B.5	\$231.c.5	41.4	8(1)(6)	
7. Suspend activities.	Chap.1	IV.C.7	\$231.d.6.7	41.4	4a, 8(1)(b), 9	
8. Training and instruction for personnel.	Chap.2.1	IV.A.1.g	\$232.a.6	4b.4.e.7	2h, 6e(7), 8e(1)(6), 8(2)(a), 8m	
9. Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements: Assurance and reporting body determinations, if applicable. Minutes of IACUC meetings. Records regarding protocol review and inspections.	Chap.2.1	IV.F.1.4	\$238.a.6	8.a.d	8(1)(6)-(9), 8(2), 8, 8h, 8	
10. Occupational health and safety programs.	Chap.2.1	IV.A.1.1			10, App C	
11. Institutional policies with regard to animal use activities.	Chap.1.2.1			5.a.k	7b and 7c, 8e n, Assurance.C	
12. IACUC meeting as needed/regular intervals.	Chap.2.1				81(2)	
13. Security, disaster, emergency, crisis plans.	Chap.2.1.6.3	See OLAW website	\$2301	1301(b)(6)	7a(2), 7a(4), 7i	

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OLAW Resources

FAQs, articles, guidance, and webinars

<https://olaw.nih.gov/guidance/topic-index>

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Questions ???

CAN THE RED DOT EVER BE CAUGHT?

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Questions ???

IACUC-Admin PRIVATE Joined

Provided by the National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR) to facilitate compliance with both the intent and the spirit of the requirements.

NEW CONVERSATIONS 1 ALL CONVERSATIONS FILES SEARCH

Email

LaurenDanridge @ Princeton.edu

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