

# Miami VA Annual Animal Care & Use Program TRAINING 2016



Presented by the Miami VA Research Service, the Veterinary Medical Unit,  
and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Office

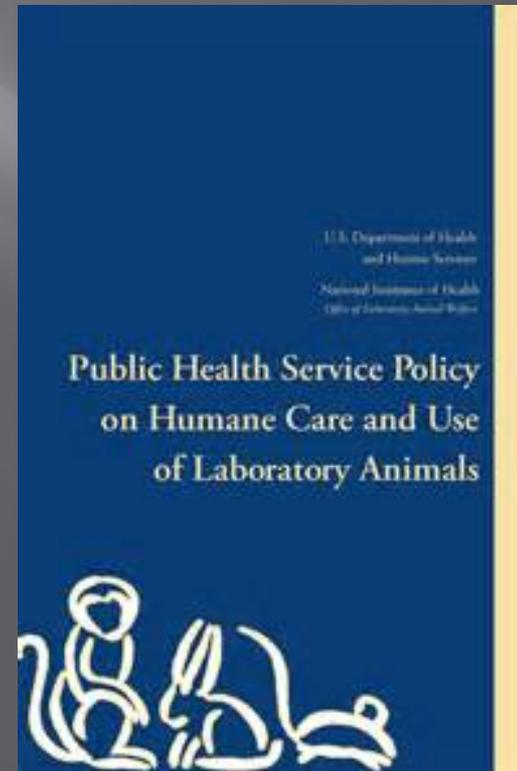
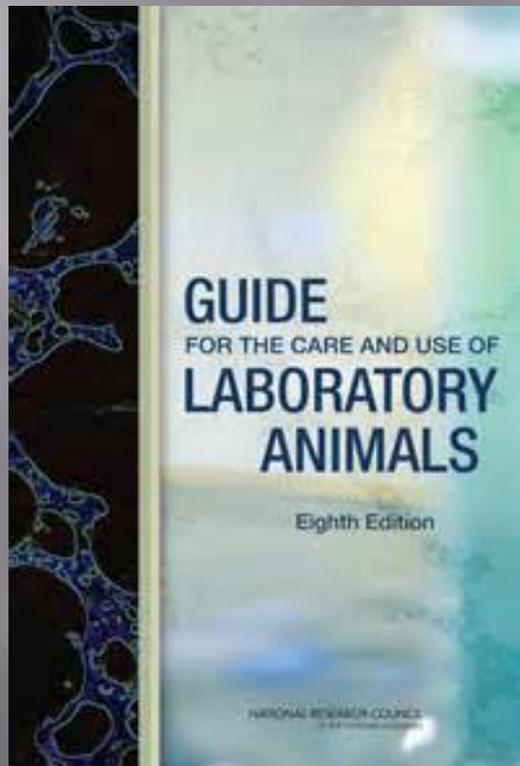
**April 20, 2016**  
**and**  
**April 21, 2016**

# MIAMI VAMC ANIMAL CARE AND USE PROGRAM

## WHERE TO GET A COPY OF THE *GUIDE*

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/Guide-for-the-Care-and-Use-of-Laboratory-Animals.pdf>

Request a hard copy thru the office of research second floor room#2A102b



# THE VMU COMMITMENT



- ▣ **THE HIGHEST QUALITY OF ANIMAL CARE**
- ▣ **EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH**
- ▣ **SEARCH FOR IMPROVEMENT**



# MIAMI VAMC ANIMAL CARE AND USE PROGRAM

## TOPICS TO BE COVERED



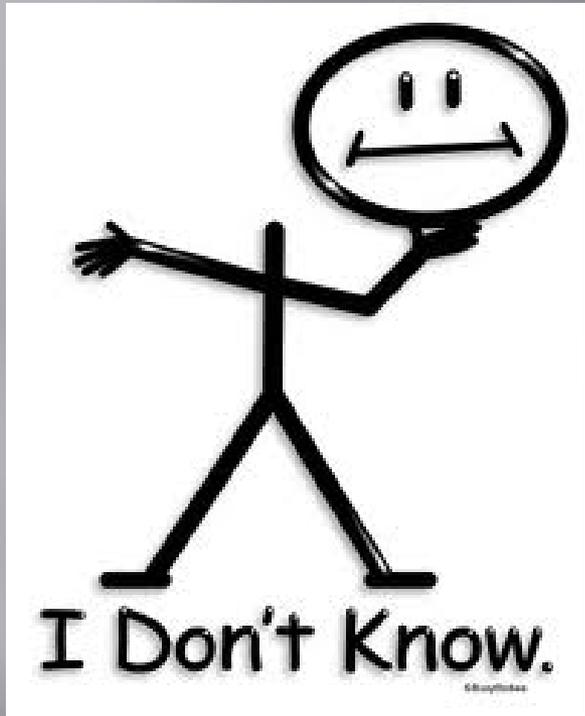
**ANIMAL FACILITY  
AND SPECIES  
SPECIFIC**



**WORKING WITH THE  
VA IACUC**



**RULES AND  
REGULATIONS**



RULES  
AND  
REGULATIONS

WORKING WITH THE IACUC



# ACORP/PERSONNEL CONCERNS

1. Occupational Health Issues
2. Zoonotic Diseases – Natural Disease
3. Experimental Diseases
4. Allergies – Injuries
5. Occupational Health Plan
6. Alternative Search
7. Humane Standards
8. Housing
9. Health Status
10. Detecting Pain and Distress
11. Anatomy
12. Metabolism
13. Injections and Blood Collections
14. Antibody Production
15. Analgesics, Sedatives and Anesthetics
16. Surgery
17. Supportive Care and Monitoring



# **CRITICAL INFORMATION IN THE ACORP**

## **WHY IS THIS VERY IMPORTANT IN YOUR ACORP???**

- ▣ **Justify the Number of Animals**
- ▣ **Statistical Methods**
- ▣ **Number of Experiments**
- ▣ **Group Size**
- ▣ **Painful Procedures**
- ▣ **Acute vs. Chronic**
- ▣ **Surgical Procedures**
- ▣ **Use of Non-Pharmaceutical-Grade Chemicals and Other Substances in Research with Animals**

# ACORP Version 3 or 4. Which should I use?

ANSWER: VERSION 4

## **Version 3 is no longer accepted by IACUC**

The IACUC under certain circumstances will accept version 3, but recommends that all new protocols be submitted using version 4..

Why: Because it has been updated to meet the requirements of the new *Guide*, and has been revised to make the information clearer for the IACUC to evaluate. ”

**ACORP forms may be obtained by visiting**

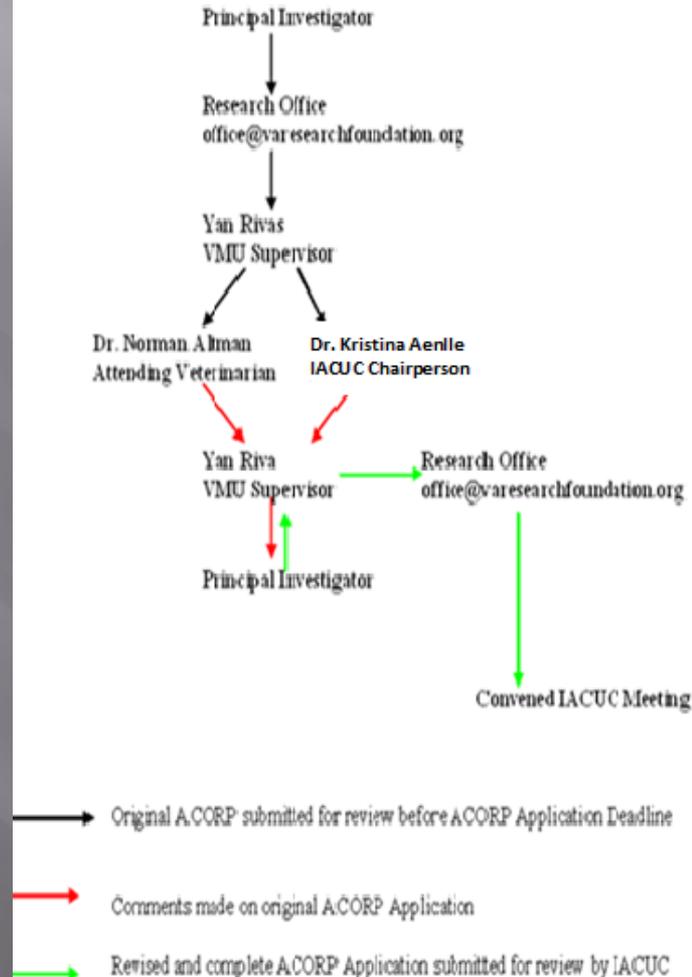
[http://www.research.va.gov/programs/animal\\_research](http://www.research.va.gov/programs/animal_research)

In general, no protocol should be submitted to the IACUC on an older version of the ACORP forms more than 1 year after a newer one becomes available

# MIAMI VAMC ANIMAL CARE AND USE PROGRAM

## ACORP SUBMISSION & REVIEW PROCESS

### Process For Electronic Submission of Pre-Review For ACORP (Appendix 1)



# Animal Protocol Inconsistencies

**Endpoint Criteria.** During the 2-week treatment period, mice will be closely monitored every day for signs of distress and lethargy. The main concern is identifying mice with excessive tumor burden (>10% total body weight). Tumor growth during the treatment period will be grossly monitored by palpation. The PI has extensive experience in determining mice with >10% tumor burden from his previous studies. In addition, mice that appear to have lost body weight (>20%), show little movement, are non-social, and/or in a hunched position will be euthanized.

**Euthanasia.** Individual mice in the experimental groups will be euthanized by anesthesia with Rodent anesthetic cocktail followed by cervical dislocation. Euthanasia of mice not in experimental groups (>4 at one time) will be by CO<sub>2</sub> inhalation followed by cervical dislocation to ensure death.

**Proposal Overview. Lay Description.** Using non-technical (lay) language that a senior high school student would understand, briefly describe how this research project might improve the health of people and/or other animals. A scientific abstract from a grant proposal is not acceptable. Once completed, proceed to item Rodents infected with unwanted pathogenic agents may introduce undesirable variables in experimental data. This project will provide a health surveillance program for rodents colonies used at the Miami V.A. Medical Center. It will provide the Investigators the assurance of detecting any undesirable pathogens in their colonies that can affect the outcome of their experiments.

**USDA Category B.** List by year the number of animals that will be bred or purchased for breeding, but not used for experiments. This includes breeders, young that cannot be used because of improper genotype or gender, and any other animals that will not have any research procedures performed on them or participate in research studies. If numbers cannot be determined exactly, estimate as closely as possible. (Note: If tail snips are necessary for genotyping, this category is not appropriate.)

**Justification for number of animals requested and group sizes.** Describe how the estimated number of animals needed for the experiments was determined. When appropriate, provide the number and type of experimental and control groups in each experiment, the number of experiments planned, and the number of animals in each group. The ILAR *Guide* states that whenever possible, the number of animals requested should be justified statistically.

# Protocol violations are serious adverse events!

- DO NOT TREAT THE ANIMALS WITH PROCEDURES THAT ARE NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR PROTOCOL
- FOLLOW PROTOCOL PROCEDURES AS WRITTEN  
Hard Copy of the ACORP Available in the Lab to Encourage Your Staff to Read Periodically
- ANNUAL REVIEWS  
Principal investigators must submit the protocol review with any amendment before the deadline. DO NOT TOUCH the animals until the amendment is FULLY APPROVED
- REQUIREMENTS BEFORE ANIMAL WORKS BEGIN  
All animal laws/regulations as described in the guide, OLAW, internal (VMU SOPs), governmental and national. Follow posted sign instructions in the animal facility

## SCOPE OF PRACTICE!!

DO NOT BEGIN YOUR ANIMAL EXPERIMENT WITHOUT RECEIPT OF AN IACUC APPROVAL LETTER. COMPLETION OF CREDENTIALS WILL BE VERIFIED. ALL STAFF MUST BE APPROVED BY THE ACOS/R THROUGH THE IACUC TO DO RESEARCH.

# MIAMI VAMC ANIMAL CARE AND USE PROGRAM



MEMBERS OF THE IACUC

ACORP

AMMENDMENT

SCIENTIFIC STAFF

VISITORS?

STUDENTS?

POST-DOC?

FRIENDS?

# MIAMI VAMC ANIMAL CARE AND USE PROGRAM

- **USDA**
- **Animal Welfare Act**
- **PHS Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals**
- **AVMA Panel on Euthanasia**
- **VHA Handbook 1200.7**
- **OLAW**

- Regulatory documents mentioned in the instructions are abbreviated as follows:

- *0730* - VA Handbook 0730 Security and Law Enforcement, August 11, 2000
- *0730/2* - VA Handbook 0730/2 Security and Law Enforcement, May 27, 2010
- *1108.01* - VHA Handbook 1108.01 Controlled Substances (Pharmacy Stock), November 16, 2010
- *1200.07* - VHA Handbook 1200.07 Use of Animals in Research, November 23, 2011
- *AAALAC FAQs* - Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International FAQs, June 2011
- *AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia* - The AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia (formerly the 2000 Report of the AVMA Panel on Euthanasia), 2007
- *AWAR* - USDA Animal Welfare Act Regulations and Standards, Code of Federal Regulations, Title 9, Chapter 1)
- *Form 7023* - USDA APHIS Form 7023
- *Guide* - Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, 8<sup>th</sup> ed., 2011
- *OLAW FAQs* - Frequently Asked Questions - PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/faqs.htm>)
- *PHS Policy* - Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
- *US Government Principles* - US Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training
- *USDA APHIS Animal Care Policies* - Animal Care Resource Guide Policies, USDA APHIS, March 25, 2011

# What is AAALAC?

AAALAC stands for the "Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care." More than 850 companies, universities, hospitals, government agencies and other research institutions in 32 countries have earned AAALAC accreditation. It's an international private, nonprofit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through voluntary accreditation and assessment programs.

Some of the institutions that have earned AAALAC accreditation include the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, The American Red Cross, and the National Institutes of Health.

## Why is AAALAC's role important?

For some, animal research is a controversial topic. But like others in the animal welfare arena, AAALAC endorses the use of animals to advance medicine and science when there are no non-animal alternatives, and when it is done in an ethical and humane way. When animals are used, AAALAC works with institutions and researchers to serve as a bridge between progress and animal well-being. This is done through AAALAC's voluntary accreditation process in which research programs demonstrate that they meet the minimum standards required by law, and are *also* going the extra step to achieve excellence in animal care and use.

# ON-LINE RESOURCES

- ▣ **ALTBIB: Bibliography on Alternatives to Animal Testing**  
<http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/altbib.html>
- ▣ **UC Davis Center for Animal Alternatives**  
<http://lib.ucdavis.edu/dept/animalalternatives/>
- ▣ **Altweb**  
<http://altweb.jhsph.edu>

# The Program Description (PD)



- ✓ A very detailed document which describes your program of animal care and use
- ❖ Requires intensive self-evaluation
- ❖ Provides an excellent source of information for key personnel in your program
- ❖ Institutional training
- ❖ Semiannual evaluations
- ❖ Provides the basis for AAALAC assessments



# Animal Euthanasia Limits and Conservation Plan

**Did you know that your unwanted animals can be transferred to a general facility hold, maintained by the VMU supervisor then donated to another investigator?**

- **New IACUC VMU SOP policy: Authorization must be obtained to euthanize more than or equal to 8 naïve mice or 3 naïve rats in any 30 day period. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in non-eligibility to order animals.**
- 1. Any naïve (no experimentation) animals that are no longer planning to be used must reported to the VMU Supervisor, Yan Rivas, immediately.
- 2. You must notify the VMU Supervisor and or the Attending Veterinarian, Norman H. Altman, VMD, the number of you want to euthanize.
- 3. The animals may either be approved to be euthanized or placed on a holding protocol to be donated.
- 3. Donated or transferred by submitting an amendment.

# Occupational Health and Safety Program (OHSP)

The Miami VA facility has established a mandatory preventative medicine program (PMP) and the Research Service provides an optional service specific to protecting personnel who are involved in animal research, or who are otherwise at risk of exposure to animals or their (unfixed) tissues or fluids.



# The hazards associated with handling animals can be divided into three categories:

- 1) **Physical Hazards.** Examples of such hazards include animal bites and scratches, sharps injuries, injuries associated with moving cages or equipment, and adverse consequences from excessive noise or accidental exposure to workplace.



- 2) **Allergies.** Allergic reactions to animals are among the most common conditions that affect the health of workers exposed to laboratory animals. Sneezing, itchy eyes, and skin rashes are typical clinical signs, but in serious cases, asthma or anaphylaxis may occur. Allergens include urine, dander, and saliva, especially from rodents. You can limit exposure to allergens by using appropriate PPE and using safe work practices.



- 1) **Zoonotic diseases.** Zoonotic diseases are those that can be transmitted from animals (or animal tissues) to humans. Although a substantial number of animal pathogens may cause disease in humans, zoonotic diseases are not common in modern animal facilities, largely because of prevention, detection, and eradication programs.



# MORE ABOUT THE OHSP

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

**Its Optional! You can enroll at [www.sfvafre.org](http://www.sfvafre.org) anytime.**

### **About Bites, Scratches, and other Injuries...**

Contact your Supervisor and Occupational Health immediately if you are bitten or scratched, if you injure yourself while performing your job, or if you experience unusual disease symptoms.

### **If you are Pregnant...**

Working with hazardous agents and toxic chemicals is discouraged during pregnancy. Consult Employee Health and your personal physician for advice about working safely during pregnancy.

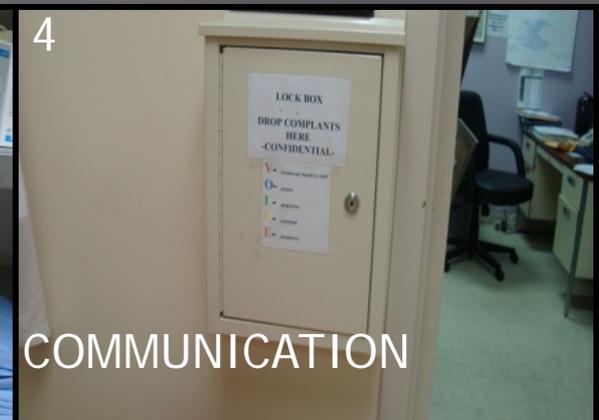
# RESEARCH COMPLIANCE MONITORING

BY GLADYS BENEDI

1. **RCO ROLE**
2. **PERFORMING AUDITS**
3. **NEW PRIVACY DATA PLANS**
4. **PROTOCOL VIOLATIONS**
5. **QUESTIONS**

# PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW UP

1. Must be in the ACORP
2. Comply with the VA laws /reg/HR
3. Comply with our local sub-IACUC/Animal Questionnaire
4. DO NOT enter the VMU after have been in UM "DVR"
5. Notify the VMU Supervisor Ext. 3531 Cell# 786-359-3432



# VETERINARY MEDICINE UNIT (VMU)

- ⇒ PIV Card Access only
- ⇒ Alarm
- ⇒ Video Camera



# Standard Operating Procedures

- REPORTING ANIMALS/FACILITY ISSUES
- ANIMAL PURCHASE ORDER SUBMISSIONS
- REQUESTING CLEAN SUPPLIES
- TRANSFERRING/IMPORTING ANIMALS
- REMOVAL OF SOILED EQUIPMENT
- REQUESTING SPECIAL DIET
- REQUESTING ANIMAL PROCEDURES

# Requisition form for Sick, Dead or Euthanize Animals

## AUTHORIZATION FOR ANIMAL EUTHANASIA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

Specie: \_\_\_\_\_

How many animals: \_\_\_\_\_

Are Cages Identified With Yellow Cards? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Authorizing the Animal Euthanasia: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Technician Authorized to Euthanize the Animals: \_\_\_\_\_

## ANIMAL HEALTH REPORT Veterinary Medical Unit

Principal Investigator \_\_\_\_\_ Protocol# \_\_\_\_\_

Room# \_\_\_\_\_ Lab Contact Ext. \_\_\_\_\_ Animal ID \_\_\_\_\_

Specie \_\_\_\_\_ ? Female ? Male ? Litter Vendor \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Vendor \_\_\_\_\_

Sign of Illness (Please check the appropriate one)

? Not eating/Drinking	? Nasal Discharge	? Malocclusion
? No feces/Urine	? Eye Discharge	? Lameness
? Diarrhea	? Sleepy/Depressed	? Open Wound
? Coughing	? Difficult Breathing	? Tumor/Abscess
? Sneezing	? Head Tilt	? Hair Loss
? Dehydrated	? Circling	? Skin Condition

Other type signs

Any other animal ill in same room: ? Yes ? No

Any animal found dead in same room: ? Yes ? No

Was the cage identified with a color card ? Yes ? No

Reported by \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor

Evaluation: \_\_\_\_\_

Lab Contact

Person Contacted \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Veterinarian Evaluation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

LEAVE THIS CARD ON  
CAGE

## EUTHANIZE ANIMALS AS INDICATED IN THIS CAGE

PI NAME -----

PROTOCOL-----

TODAY'S DATE -----

SPECIE -----

STRAIN -----

SEX -----

REQUESTED BY -----

COMMENTS:  
-----

## LEAVE THIS CARD ON CAGE SICK ANIMAL IN THIS CAGE

ROOM#-----

PI NAME -----

PROTOCOL-----

TODAY'S DATE -----

ID ON CAGE -----

SPECIE -----

STRAIN -----

DELIVERY DATE -----

SEX -----

VENDOR -----

REPORTED BY -----

COMMENTS:  
-----

## DEAD ANIMAL REPORT Veterinary Medical Unit

Principal Investigator \_\_\_\_\_ Protocol# \_\_\_\_\_

Room# \_\_\_\_\_ Lab Contact Ext. \_\_\_\_\_ Animal ID \_\_\_\_\_

Specie \_\_\_\_\_ ? Female ? Male ? Litter Vendor \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Reported by \_\_\_\_\_

Cause of Death (Please check the appropriate one)

? Not Eating/Drinking  
? Malocclusion  
? Open Wound  
? Large Tumor/Abscess  
? Severe Skin Condition  
? Fighting  
? Cannibalism  
? Flooded Cage  
? Clogged Sipper Tube  
? Starvation  
? Room Too Hot/Cold  
? Unknown

Any other type sign of death: \_\_\_\_\_

Was the cage identified with a color card ? Yes ? No

Was this animal in quarantine: ? Yes ? No

Any animal found dead in same room: ? Yes ? No

Any other animal ill in same room: ? Yes ? No

Supervisor

Evaluation: \_\_\_\_\_

Lab Contact

Person Contacted: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

LEAVE THIS CARD

## ON CAGE DEAD ANIMAL(S) WAS FOUND ON THIS CAGE

ROOM#-----

PI NAME -----

PROTOCOL-----

TODAY'S DATE -----

TIME -- -----

ID ON CAGE -----

SPECIE -----

STRAIN -----

DELIVERY DATE -----

SEX -----

VENDOR -----

REPORTED BY -----

COMMENTS:  
-----

# SAMPLE TRANSFER FORMS

**SAMPLE:** Transfer form for animals received from other institutions

**SAMPLE:** Transfer form for animals transferred from PIs to PIs

## Request to Transport Animals Outside the Veterinary Medical Unit (VMU)

Appendix I - Miami VAHS- VMU SOP #1010

Before submitting a request to transport animals, please READ the following: All parties involved in the transfer of animals are required to apply due diligence in assuring that animals are transported under appropriate conditions to prevent morbidity or mortality. Therefore, all investigators must adhere to the following procedures in the transport or transfer of live animals.

### IACUC Approval of Animal Transport

Transport of any animal outside the VA must first be approved by the IACUC and described in an IACUC-approved Protocol (or Amendment if transportation becomes necessary following approval of the original protocol). Along with the approved amendment from the sender of the animals and the receiver, this form must be completed for review and approval before the rodents can be exported to other institutions. The IACUC must also determine that the receiving institution meets the requirements to receive animals.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Type responses in the provided form fields – incomplete forms will be returned. Sign the completed form and return it to IACUC/Research Administration at 2A102b, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor or to the VMU Supervisor's office, in the animal facility, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Room# 127, contact #phone 305-575-7000-ext 3531 or x3179.

**Note:** Shipping to non-vendors may take up to 2 to 6 weeks for completion of shipping arrangements. Veterinarian approval must be obtained to use rodents before the normal quarantine period (i.e. tissue harvesting).

### Section A: Contact Information

Recipient/Principal Investigator Name:

Email:

Phone #:

Fax #:

Protocol #:

Lab Contact (if appl.):

Email:

Phone #:

Fax #:

### Section B: Animal Information

IACUC Protocol # and Title:

Species to be Transported (List all):

Approximate Number of Animals, Per Transport:

1

Miami VA Request to Transport Animals Outside the VMU

MIAMI VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER  
VETERINARY MEDICAL UNIT

### TRANSFER ANIMAL REQUEST

PLEASE COMPLETE ENTIRELY AND EMAIL TO [yan.rivas@va.gov](mailto:yan.rivas@va.gov) (305-975-5805) or to Dr. Altman [Nalman@med.miami.edu](mailto:Nalman@med.miami.edu) (305-775-1925)

AFTER YOUR REQUEST HAS BEEN FULLY VETERINARY APPROVED PLEASE ALLOW 48 HOURS MINIMUM FOR TRANSFER OF ANIMALS FOR REGULAR TRANSFERS, PLEASE COMPLETE COLUMNS 1 AND 2.  
For transfers that involve the use of the mri or irradiator, please use column 2 to list mri or irradiator.

CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

	FROM:	TO:	TO:
Date Submitted for Transfer			
Transfer Date Deadline			
Investigator			
Telephone #			
Building			
Room #			
Number of Cages			
Number of Animals			
Species			
Strain			
SEX			
USDA Category			
ID on Cage Card (if Any)			
Protocol			
Vendor			
Date Received from Vendor to VA			

Is this transfer for a Terminal Procedure Yes?  No?

DO YOU WANT TO BE CONTACTED BY THE VET TECHS AND BE PRESENT DURING THE TRANSFER  YES  NO  
These animals have  or have not  been used for experimental purposes on my protocol, approved and assigned to an USDA category. If they have been used, the USDA category is \_\_\_\_

Have any of the following been used? If yes, please describe

Chemicals:	Y N	
Drugs:	Y N	
Infectious Agents:	Y N	
Radioisotopes:	Y N	
Surgery:	Y N	
Other:		

Animal Will Not Be Transferred Without Below Approval Names

	Time:	Date:	Initial/Name:
Husbandry			
VMU Sup. Approval			
Veterinary Approval			
Date Completed			
Comments			

**All cages ready for Transfer should be identified with a Transfer card filled out and placed on each cage**

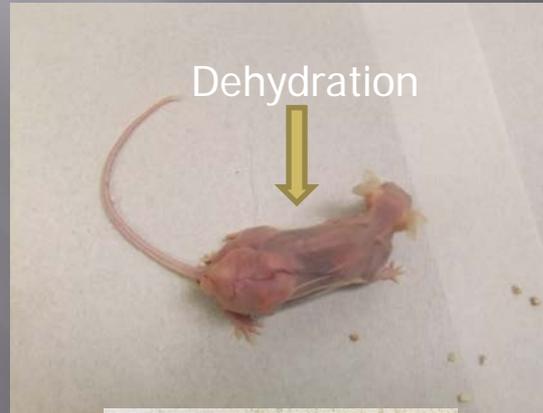
# COMMON ANIMAL DISEASES/PROBLEMS POST EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENT

1. What is enough vs. too much?
2. How is tumor burden measured?



# Common animal diseases/problems

Why are some  
these mice  
Still being used  
in the  
experiment?



DEATHS due to  
Severally Large tumor and dehydration



# Common animal diseases/problems

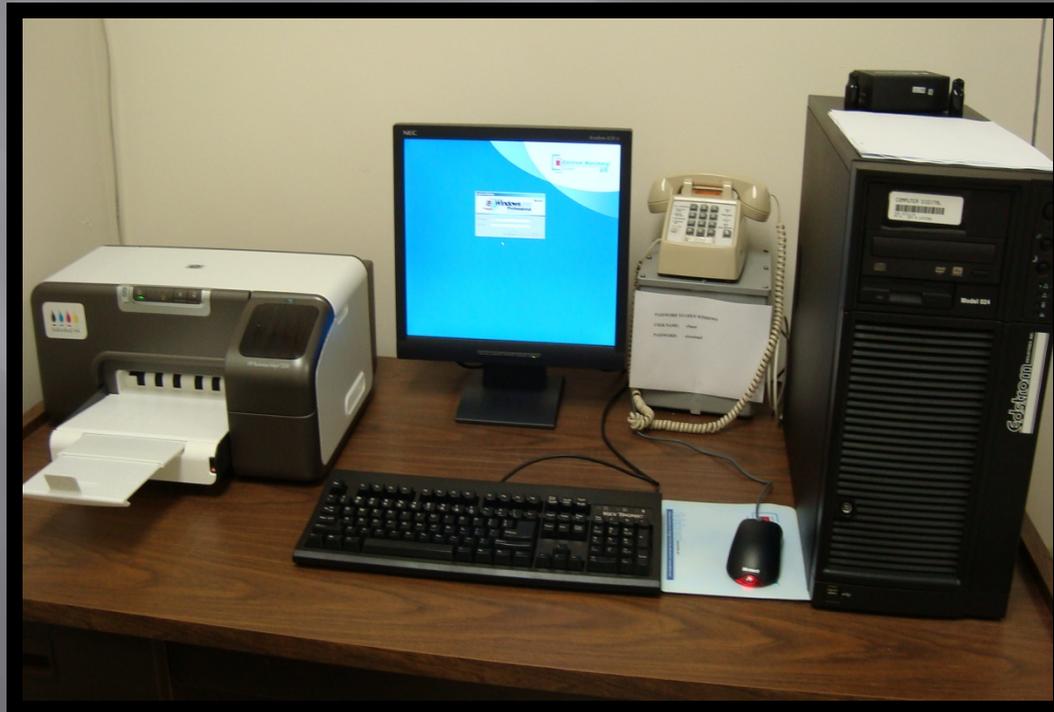
Overcrowding



# WATCHDOG SYSTEM

An electronic system created to detect room temperatures, humidity and lighting issues

- ▣ TEMPERATURE (Critical)
- ▣ HUMIDITY (Critical)
- ▣ LIGHTING (Not so critical)



# DRUG DISTRIBUTION

## PYXIS MACHINE:

## Approved Drug Distribution

- ❑ Controlled Drugs (ketamine)
- ❑ Non-Controlled Drugs
- ❑ Investigator Request
- ❑ Drug Cocktail (Rodent)







# LABORATORY SENTINEL TEST RESULTS

variables

Some virus may cause adverse results to your experiment

Zoonotic →

Positive result →

04/21/2014 10:02 University of Miami ID: 405917 Page 1 of 1

**UMIAMI** Pathology Research Resources  
Division of Comparative Pathology, Miller School of Medicine, Ph: (800) 596-7590 Fax: (305) 245-5662 www.cpl.med.miami.edu  
14-6155

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Owner: RIVAS Species: Mouse Collected Date: 04/17/14  
Patient: MULTIPLE Age / Sex: / Accession Date: 04/17/14  
Case Coordinator: Norman Altman, VMD, DACVP

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**Superscan Mouse Panel** Verified on: 04/21/14

Test Name	138-A	138-B
Mouse hepatitis virus (MHV)	Negative	Negative
Sendai virus	Negative	Negative
Mycoplasma pulmonis (MPUL)	Negative	Negative
Pneumonia virus of mice (PVM)	Negative	Negative
Minute virus of mice (MVM)	Negative	Negative
Thieler's murine encephalomyelitis virus (GD7)	Negative	Negative
Epizootic diarrhea of mice (EDIM)	Negative	Negative
Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus (LCMV)	Negative	Negative
Ectromelia virus	Negative	Negative
K Virus	Negative	Negative
Encephalitozoon cuniculi (ECUN)	Negative	Negative
Polyomavirus	Negative	Negative
Mouse adenovirus (MAD)	Negative	Negative
Reovirus type - 3 (REO3)	Negative	Negative
Murine cytomegalovirus (MCMV)	Negative	Negative
Mouse T lymphotropic virus (MTLV)	Negative	Negative
CAR Bacillus (CARB)	Negative	Negative
Clostridium piliforme (CPIL)	Negative	Negative
Hantavirus	Negative	Negative
Mouse parvovirus (MPV)	Negative	Negative
Mouse norovirus	Negative	<b>Positive</b>

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**Parasitology Feces** Verified on: 04/17/14

Animal Id	Organism
138-A	No Parasites Detected
138-B	No Parasites Detected

# Per Diem

1. How much is charged per animal?
2. Why the charges?
3. Should the PIs be charged per animal head or cage?



Versus



# Security System (Alarm)



# DO NOT MOVE/RELOCATE

EQUIPMENT  
OR ANY OTHER VA  
MATERIALS WITHOUT  
PROPER AUTHORIZATION OR  
PROCEDURE



**Heating Ventilating  
and Air Conditioning**

**HVAC SYSTEM**



# PROCEDURES FOR ESCAPED ANIMALS

**These are the procedures to follow in the event a research animal escapes**

**If the animal escapes in the animal facility**

Notify the VMU Supervisor      Notify the PI  
Notify the Administrative Officer

**If the animal escapes in laboratories**

Notify the PI  
Notify the VMU Supervisor  
Notify the Administrative Officer

**The VMU Supervisor will notify Pest Control. A trap will be placed in the location of the escaped animal.**

**ALWAYS keep both the wire bar lids and micro isolator tops on the cages when you are not working with the animals**

# DISASTER PLAN

**“Extremely Critical”**

## ANIMAL EMERGENCY TRIAGE PROTOCOL

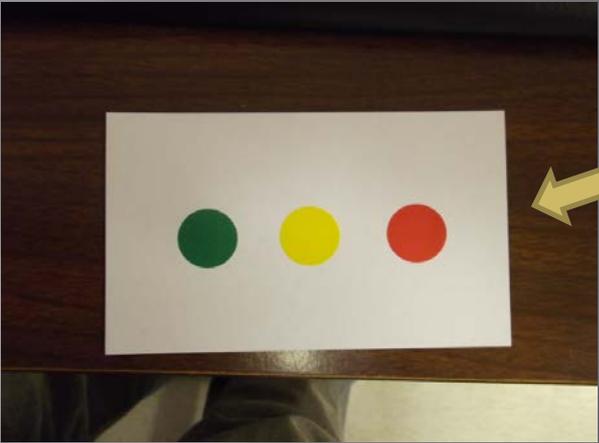
- Animals in the case of an emergency evacuation of the Veterinary Medical Unit will be labeled with appropriate color code to determine which animals will be transported to Mt Sinai and which will be euthanized.

### The Color Coding and Identification System

- ✓ 1) **Green dots** are to be placed on cage cards of animals that are “irreplaceable”:
  - - unique transgenic lines
  - - long-term studies
- The goal is for no more than 20% of rodent cages to be marked with green dots.
- ✓ 2) **Yellow dots** are to be placed on cage cards of animals that "could be replaced" by:
  - - a vendor
  - - a colleague at another institution
- ✓ 3) **Red dots** are to be placed on cage cards of animals that are "biohazard":
  - - viral vector animals
  - - radioactive animals
  - - animals that have been given toxins
  - - animals with infectious disease
  - - animals with injected with human cell lines

**An index card will be placed above the door handle of each animal room, also to be easily seen with a flashlight:**

- - Red index cards - biohazard animal room
- - White index cards - non-biohazard animal room



Animal cages

Biohazard  
Rooms



Non-Biohazard  
Rooms



Color Codes for Rooms and Cages

# CONTACT NUMBERS TO CALL

**Yan Rivas, LATg**  
**(305) 575-7000 (3531)**  
**[yan.rivas@va.gov](mailto:yan.rivas@va.gov)**

**Norman H. Altman, V.M.D.**  
**(305) 243-6640**  
**[naltman@med.miami.edu](mailto:naltman@med.miami.edu)**

**Lori Roberson, MPA**  
**305-575-7000 (3444)**  
**[lori.roberson@va.gov](mailto:lori.roberson@va.gov)**

**Kristina Aenlle, PhD**  
**305-575-7000 (4498)**  
**[Kristina.Aenlle@va.gov](mailto:Kristina.Aenlle@va.gov)**

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