



IACUC PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING ANIMAL CARE AND USE CONCERNS (WHISTLE BLOWER POLICY)

EVALUATION OF ANIMAL CARE AND USE CONCERNS

To help ensure that laboratory animals receive humane care, use of treatment in accordance with the highest ethical standards, laws, regulations and policies governing animal research, the IACUC must review and, if warranted, address any animal-related concerns raised by the public, employees, or anyone engaged in research at Lifespan. The Committee will review each concern in a timely and systematic manner and, when necessary, take prompt, appropriate corrective actions.

DEFINITIONS

Adverse Events: Events in which there is direct harm to animals or personnel

Unanticipated Problems: Not all unanticipated problems involve direct harm to animal subjects. Events can occur which are unexpected and result in new circumstances that increase the risk of harm to animals or research/support staff without directly harming them. In each case, while the event may not have caused any detectable harm or adverse effect to subjects or others, they, nevertheless, represent unanticipated problems and should be promptly reported.

NOTE: The death of an animal during transit is considered to be an unanticipated problem, which must be promptly reported to the IACUC.

METHODS FOR REPORTING

Personnel are required to report adverse events, unanticipated problems, and instances of suspected non-compliance with laws, rules, regulations and policies to the IACUC.

Individuals having concerns involving animal care and use within Lifespan facilities are responsible for reporting these concerns either through their supervisor or independently to the IACUC and can be made through various persons, e.g., any member of the IACUC, IACUC Coordinator, Director of CRF, CRF managers, veterinarians, the Institutional Official (VP- Research), the Administrative Director or the Research Protection Office verbally or in writing. **IACUC contact information is posted on the IACUC webpage as well as provided to all researchers during their initial orientation with the Central Research Facilities (CRF) Director. Veterinary and CRF management staff telephone numbers are posted within each animal facility.** Alternatively reports may be submitted anonymously to Corporate Compliance via the Employee Response Line.

Although written concerns are more convenient to handle, complainants may not be willing to submit them in this manner. In such cases, the individuals who receive concerns should document them fully to ensure that the issues are clear and to prevent misunderstandings.

Lifespan will take appropriate steps to protect the confidentiality of those who report concerns as well as anyone against whom allegations are directed, while allegations are under investigation.

Lifespan policy prohibits unlawful retaliation against employees as a consequence of good faith actions in the reporting or the participation in an investigation pertaining to allegations of wrongdoing.

Doug Moore, IACUC Co-Chair	444-8904
Tiffany Borjeson, DVM, Attending Veterinarian	369-1845
Peggy McGill, VP Research Administration (Institutional Official)	444-8697
Corporate Compliance via the Employee Response Line	888-678-5111

See ***Lifespan Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Policy and Procedure Manual***, ORA RRC 002, IACUC, 12/16/12, Section 8. <http://www.lifespan.org/doc/Page.asp?PageID=DOC022671>