Purdue University

December 2011

PACUC Newsletter

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From the Purdue Animal Care and Use Committee

www.purdue.edu/animals

Update on the Implementation of Coeus IACUC Software

In January 2008, I travelled to Boston, Massachusetts, to attend the first meeting of a working group interested in developing software to run an IACUC (Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee). This working group consisted of several individuals from institutions and/or companies throughout the United States. I am the chair of this working group and have been working on the development of this software for the past four years. This software will allow the PACUC office to place items on a monthly agenda, create minutes, send protocols full or designated review, allow PACUC members to electronically receive and review submissions, and allow principal investigators to submit all PACUC items electronically.

So what does implementation of this software mean for the principal investigator? All protocols, amendments, annual reviews, animal transfers, and triennial submissions will be done electronically using this system. There will be no more paper copies. All submissions, reviews, approvals, and communications between the PACUC office and the PI will be done electronically.

As of the writing of this newsletter, we have implemented this software program in three departments with seven principal investigators within those departments participating in a pilot program to begin submitting all PACUC related items (protocols, amendments, etc.) electronically. Once the initial pilot program with those seven investigators is complete, we will expand the program to all animal users within those three departments for further testing. After this, Coeus will be implemented throughout campus for all animal users. For full implementation, we are most likely looking forward to February-March 2012.

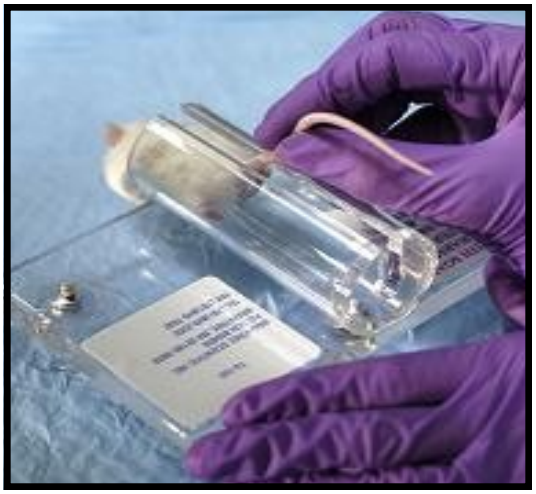
The PACUC office has begun the process of transitioning all “hard” copy protocols into the electronic system. This involves taking 547 protocols and hand entering them into the electronic system to create a protocol record. A protocol record must be created in Coeus prior to individual investigators being able to submit items electronically. Members of the Purdue Animal Care and Use Committee are quite busy at this time learning the process for receiving and reviewing submissions electronically.

I ask for your patience while we are in this transition period. The PACUC office will continue to strive to get your submissions approved as quickly as possible during this time. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have regarding this new process.

Lisa Snider
PACUC Administrator

Animal Restraint Devices

Restraint devices are designed to minimize injury to the animal and the handler while keeping an animal still and providing access to specific body parts for dosing. For many species, restraint is a known stressor and restraint itself is a technique specifically used to study stress responses in animals. As such, consideration should be given to dosing techniques that permit free movement of animals, periods of restraint should be minimized, and animals should be habituated to restraint with positive reinforcement training whenever possible. Rigid restraint devices can be padded to improve comfort, and towels or other material can be used to provide traction on slippery surfaces of restraint containers. Furthermore, to minimize the risk of injury, escape, and respiratory crises, animals should not be left unattended in a restraint device, and should be observed directly at frequent intervals if they cannot be visualized readily when placed in the restraint device. To enhance personnel safety and to minimize animal injury and stress, restraint devices may be used in combination with various sedatives or anesthetics. *



Tail-first restrainer

If you have any questions about this, or other questions regarding safe restraint of animals, please contact the LAP Training Coordinator, Carol Dowell at 494-2521 or dowellc@purdue.edu.

*Article courtesy of *Journal of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science*, September 2011

Upcoming Workshops!

I will be offering the following training workshops with a maximum of **5** participants in each session. (If you have any questions or special requests, please do not hesitate to contact me; 494-2521)

These hands-on workshops are designed to introduce the participant to the basic techniques in the laboratory rat and mouse. The Handling/Restraint workshop is a prerequisite for participation in injection, oral gavage, blood collection, and catheter placement workshops; unless participant has had previous training and/or experience in this area. A minimum of 3 days notice is requested for cancellation.

Workshop dates are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Location for the following workshops – Meet in AHF 1155.

If you are interested in participating in a workshop, please complete the enrollment form indicating which date you would like to attend, or contact Carol Dowell at dowellc@purdue.edu or 494-2521. (If the following times do not fit your schedule or training needs, I would be happy to set up training for most any species on an individual basis.)

The registration form is attached to the email that brought you the December PACUC Newsletter.

1. *Basics of Rodent Handling, Restraint, and Normal Behavior.*
   - 1/12/12 - Thursday 8:30 – 10:30am
   - 1/17/12 – Tuesday 8:30 – 10:30am
   - 1/20/12 – Friday 1:30 – 3:30pm
   - 1/30/12 – Monday 1:30 – 3:30pm
2. *Injections in the rat and mouse; ID, IM, SC, IP*
   - 1/18/12 – Wednesday 8:30 – 10:30am
   - 1/26/12 – Thursday 8:30 – 10:30am
   - 2/14/12 – Tuesday 1:30 – 3:30pm
3. *Blood Collection in the Rat and Mouse*
   - 1/24/12 – Tuesday 8:30 – 10:30am
   - 2/1/12 – Wednesday 8:30 – 10:30am
   - 2/9/12 – Thursday 1:30 – 3:30pm
4. *Tail Vein Injection and Catheter Placement in the Lab. Rat and Mouse*
   - 2/2/12 – Thursday 1:30 – 3:30pm
   - 2/10/12 – Friday 8:30 – 10:30am

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5. Rodent Oral Gavage.

- 2/15/12 – Wednesday 9:00 – 10:30am
- 2/27/12 – Monday 1:30 – 3:00pm

6. Isoflurane Gas Anesthesia

- 2/7/12 – Tuesday 1:30 – 3:00pm
- 2/13/12 – Monday 8:30 – 10:00pm

7. *Rat Intubation*

- 3/20/12 – Tuesday 9:00 – 11:00am

8. *Aseptic Technique*

- 1/31/12 – Tuesday 8:30 – 10:00am

9. Euthanasia / Basic Necropsy / Organ Identification

- 1/27/12 – Friday 9:00 – 11:00am
- 2/23/12 – Thursday 9:00 – 11:00am

10. Suturing Basics.

- 2/6/12 – Monday 1:30 – 3:30pm
- 2/21/12 – Tuesday 8:30 – 10:30am

*11. Combined Rodent Techniques *Prior experience REQUIRED*

1. Anesthesia, Aseptic Technique, abdominal surgery, suturing skills, euthanasia.
2. This workshop is ONLY for those who have had prior experience and want to fine-tune their skills for an upcoming project!

*12. Combined Rodent Training * Prior experience REQUIRED*

1. Anesthesia, Aseptic Technique, Femoral and Jugular cut-down, +/- catheter placement, suturing, euthanasia.
2. This workshop is ONLY for those who have had prior experience and want to fine-tune their skills for an upcoming project!

Upcoming PACUC Meetings

Meeting Date	*Deadline Date for Protocol Submission*
December 21	November 30 @ 5:00 p
January 18	December 28 @ 5:00 p
February 15	January 25 @ 5:00 p
March 21	February 29 @ 5:00 p
April 18	March 28 @ 5:00 p