Expired/Suspended Protocol Policy

(USE OF THE LABORATORY ANIMAL PROGRAM [LAP] ANIMAL HOLDING PROTOCOL)

The possibility exists that a protocol can become inactive (e.g., protocol approval expires due to lack of timely annual or triennial renewal, or protocol is suspended), but animals remain in an animal facility. In order to avoid euthanasia of such animals, and to remain in compliance with regulatory requirements, the Purdue Animal Care and Use Committee (PACUC) allows transfer of such animals to the LAP Animal Holding Protocol for a maximum of 60 days. During this time, the investigator of the expired or suspended protocol must take the necessary actions to gain approval for the use of the animals. Failure to gain approval will result in permanent forfeiture of the animals.

When animals are assigned to the Animal Holding Protocol, the oversight of the animals will be the responsibility of the Attending Veterinarian or LAP veterinary staff designee. During the time animals are assigned to the Animal Holding Protocol, the animals will be provided routine care. Procedures necessary to maintain the health and well-being of the animals will continue. Examples might include ongoing post-operative care, chronic catheter maintenance, administration of insulin, etc. No experimental procedures, data collection, or teaching activities will be allowed.

PROCEDURES

The day a protocol expires or is suspended, notice from the PACUC office will be provided to the Principal Investigator informing the individual that their protocol has expired / been suspended. The PI will be informed that all per diem charges that may apply are the responsibility of the PI and/or their department.

If there are still animals on that protocol, the location, species, and number of animals will be determined and the information provided to the Attending Veterinarian or LAP veterinary staff designee.

The animals will be transferred to the LAP Animal Holding Protocol by the PACUC using the Animal Transfer Form 9.

The PACUC Administrator (or designee) will notify the Principal Investigator, all personnel listed on the protocol, the Department Head and the Institutional Official (Purdue Vice President for Research) of the expiration or suspension and transfer of animals. The Principal Investigator will be required to submit a new protocol, or bring himself/herself into compliance on a suspended protocol, and informed of the 60 day animal holding time limit.

While assigned to the Animal Holding Protocol, medical treatment and/or euthanasia will be at the discretion of the Attending Veterinarian or LAP veterinary staff designee.

If the three-year approval period has expired and the teaching or research associated with the expired protocol has continued or if the protocol has been suspended, the PACUC is required to report this fact to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) and the USDA (if applicable).

Upon PACUC approval of the new protocol or lifting of a suspension, the animals will be transferred back to the Principal Investigator. If the protocol is not reinstated, the disposition of the animals will be at the discretion of the LAP veterinary staff as described under section 11 of the LAP Animal Holding Protocol (#1111000122).