



SUBJECT: Veterinary Verification and Consultation (VVC) Guideline

DATE: November 17, 2020

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### **Veterinary Verification and Consultation (VVC) Guideline**

The National Institutes of Health have provided guidance (NOT-OD-14-126) on the allowance of certain types of significant changes to animal activities previously approved by the IACUC that may be administratively approved using Veterinary Verification and Consultation (VVC).

The Attending Veterinarian (AV) will determine if a requested change meets the criteria below for VVC review. If so, the requested change to an IACUC-approved protocol will be reviewed and approved by the AV. The AV is not conducting designated member review (DMR) but is serving as a subject matter expert to verify that compliance with the IACUC-reviewed and – approved guidance is appropriate for the animals in the circumstance. The AV will retain the discretion to send any requested changes to either DMR or full committee review (FCR) as appropriate. All changed approved by VVC will be reported to the IACUC at the next committee meeting.

#### VVC Criteria

Significant changes within the following categories **cannot** be approved by VVC:

1. from non-survival to survival surgery;
2. resulting in greater pain, distress, or degree of invasiveness;
3. in housing or use of animals in locations not approved by the IACUC;
4. in species;
5. in study objectives;
6. in Principle Investigator (PI);
7. that impact personnel safety.

Significant changes that **may** be approved by VVC:

1. in the proposed method of euthanasia to any method approved in the AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals;
2. requests to add additional animals,
  - a. provided the proposed increase is not more than 10% of the original number approved and when combined with all previously approved requests for additional animals, it does not constitute a greater than 30% increase over the original number approved;

3. changes in anesthesia, analgesia, sedation, or experimental substances
  - a. provided that changes are only to agents listed in the formularies listed below, or routes and dosages;

### Other Changes

The following changes may be approved by IACUC Administrative personnel:

1. Room changes, change in location for field studies
2. correction in typographical and formatting errors;
3. correction in grammar;
4. changes in personnel (except for PI)

### Formularies

AVMA Guideline for the Euthanasia of Animals, 2013.

Flecknell's Laboratory Animal Anesthesia, 4th edition

Swine in the Laboratory, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition

University of Toledo DLAR Veterinary Recommendations for Anesthesia and Analgesia

Carpenter's Exotic Animal Formulary, 5<sup>th</sup> edition

ACLAM series, Anesthesia and Analgesia in Laboratory Animals, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition