

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

POLICY STATEMENT

Handling Animals that are not covered on an IACUC approved Animal Protocol

All animals at UMMC must be connected to an IACUC approved animal protocol. In the event that the IACUC approved animal protocol has expired or the proper forms have not been completed and submitted (annual renewal or 3 year full submission) and there remain animals associated with the protocol, or in the case of the impending arrival of a new faculty member, the IACUC has developed the following Policy to handle the care and disposition of these animals.

The IACUC has developed and approved an Animal Holding Protocol for animals in the Laboratory Animal Facilities (LAF) without Principal Investigator (PI) protocol coverage due to:

**Expiration or Suspension of a previously approved protocol
OR
Animals arriving prior to the arrival of a new faculty member**

If the previously approved protocol has expired, the following will occur:

The PI and her/his department chairman will be notified that the previously approved protocol has expired and that all animals associated with this protocol will be immediately transferred to the holding protocol for 30 days.

LAF husbandry for animals retained on the holding protocol will be charged to the PI of the previously approved protocol and/or the Department Chair at 2 times the normal daily animal care rate.

NO experimental procedures can be performed on any animals once they are assigned to the Animal Holding Protocol. This includes: data collection, sample collection, surgery, administering test substances, breeding, etc.

During the period which the animals are on this holding protocol, the PI can submit a new animal protocol to cover these animals. Following IACUC approval the animals will be transferred back to the investigator.

If, after 30 days, an animal protocol has not been submitted to the IACUC, the animals on the holding protocol may be euthanized by the approved AVMA methods. Alternatively, if the animals are suitable, they can be offered for transfer to an appropriate IACUC approved animal protocol. The Institutional Official will be notified.

If the previously approved protocol has been suspended, the following will occur:

The PI and her/his department chairman will be notified that the previously approved protocol has been suspended and that all animals associated with this protocol will be immediately transferred to the holding protocol for the period of the suspension.

LAF husbandry for animals retained on the holding protocol will be charged to the PI of the previously approved protocol and/or the Department Chair at the normal daily animal care rate. NO experimental procedures can be performed on any animals once they are assigned to the Animal Holding Protocol. This includes: data collection, sample collection, surgery, administering test substances, breeding, etc.

During the period which the animals are on this holding protocol, the PI must work with the IACUC to in order to resolve the suspension. Following IACUC removal of the suspension and approval the animals will be transferred back to the investigator.

If the suspension is not removed after 60 days, the animals on the holding protocol will be euthanized by the approved AVMA methods. Alternatively, if the animals are suitable, they can be offered for transfer to an appropriate IACUC approved animal protocol. The Institutional Official will be notified.

If the animals arrive prior to the arrival of the PI, the following will occur:

Animals will be held on the Animal Holding Protocol. The normal LAF daily animal care rate will be in effect and paid by the department.

NO experimental procedures can be performed on any animals once they are assigned to the Animal Holding Protocol. This includes: data collection, sample collection, surgery, administering test substances, etc. An exception can be made for breeding of animals arriving with the new faculty member if necessary to maintain the colony.

Once the new PI has secured IACUC approval, her/his animals will be transferred to the new protocol.

If the new PI fails to submit an IACUC protocol within 60 days of their arrival, then her/his animals will remain on the Animal Holding Protocol and the PI will be charged 2 times the normal daily animal care rate until IACUC approval has been obtained. If no attempts are made to submit an IACUC protocol within 90 days of their arrival, the animals may be euthanized by approved AVMA methods. Alternatively, if the animals are suitable, they can be offered for transfer to an appropriate IACUC approved protocol. The Institutional Official will be notified.

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