

**The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

**Multiple Major Surgical Procedures**

Major surgery penetrates and exposes a body cavity (abdomen, thorax, cranium) or produces substantial impairment of physical or physiologic function (orthopedic, neurologic, endocrine, etc). Multiple major survival surgical procedures on a single animal are discouraged but may be permitted if scientifically justified by the user and approved by the IACUC.

A recovery, surgical event followed by a subsequent surgical event (from which the animal does not regain consciousness) is not considered a multiple major survival surgical procedure.

Peripheral vessel cannulation likewise is not considered a component of multiple major survival surgical procedures.

The UMMC Animal Activity Protocol form question #16 prompts the investigator to note if Multiple Major Survival Procedures are a component of the protocol. Further, the investigator must complete Appendix H and explain and justify the need for the multiple procedures in the same animal.

IACUC Approved 12/19/00  
Updated 7/01/04; 6/17/08  
Reviewed: 12/20/11