Animal Care & Use Program (ACUP) Quarterly Informational Meeting

March 2022
1:30pm CST via Zoom
ACUP Updates
AAALAC International Site Visit

AAALAC International:
- Gold standard
- Accrediting body for animal care and use programs

Vanderbilt ACUP accredited since 1967

Site Visits conducted every three years

Next site visit: First Trimester 2023
   (Program description due December 2022)
Masking Requirements

- VU – Masks optional as of March 14
  - Animal Facility: Wilson Hall – masks required in all NHP housing rooms

- VUMC - No change to policies on masks, meeting sizes, or social distancing
  - Animal Facilities: masks required at all times
Security Reminder

Characteristics of Suspicious Packages:

- Are sent unexpectedly or from someone unfamiliar.
- Are addressed generically or have misspellings or incorrect titles.
- Have no return address or an address that cannot be verified.
- Have unusual weight given the size, are lopsided, or are leaking an unknown substance.
- Are marked “Personal” or “Confidential”
- Have a city or state postmark that does not match the return address.

If you receive a suspicious package, call VUPD.
If you receive a suspicious package from an Animal Rights Group, call VUPD and email ACUPAdminOffice@vumc.org
ACUP Admin Office

The ACUP Administrative Staff is available Monday – Friday, 7:30am to 4:30pm.

MCN AA-6206
615-322-2231
ACUPAdminOffice@vumc.org

Animal Procurement: DACprocurement@vumc.org
Animal Shipping: DAC.Shipping@vumc.org
Animal Internal Transfers: DACTransfers@vumc.org
Billing Questions: DACBilling@vumc.org
TOPAZ Issues: ACUPAppSupport@vumc.org
IACUC/OAWA Updates
Routine Inspection Jan. 25-27

Two non-compliant issues found during this inspection

- Two citations
  - Drugs administered at a dose not consistent with the protocol.
  - Cleanliness of tree shrew cages.
- “REPEAT” was removed for protocol citation due to change in definition. Now 3 citations in one category within 3 years

Vanderbilt continues to be in a “High Inspection Frequency” status and should expect follow-up visits.
Thank you for adapting to the scheduled inspections and your help with maintaining appropriate physical distancing.

Top Items of Non-compliance from January 2022

- Recordkeeping
- Expired Items
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
January 2022 Semi Annual Inspection

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Deficiency Category</th>
<th>Minor</th>
<th>Significant</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Animal Welfare</td>
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<td>Expired Items</td>
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<td>Recordkeeping</td>
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<td>Physical Plant</td>
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<td>Cleaning/Sterilization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safety Concerns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
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Vanderbilt University Medical Center
January 2022 Semi Annual Inspection

VUMC/VU Deficiencies by Category

Historic High = 572 deficiencies July 2007
Veterans Administration - TVHS
January 2022 Semi Annual Inspection

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Veterans Administration - TVHS
January 2022 Semi Annual Inspection

Veterans Administration - TVHS
January 2022 Semi Annual Inspection

Historic High = 72 deficiencies July 2007
VUH Lobby Renovation Impact on Light Hall Animal Transportation Route

Until further notice:

- Use the Light Hall South Elevators # E4, E5, and E6 as indicated on the map
- Avoid the Light Hall North Elevators #E1, E2, and E3 as indicated on the map
- Avoid the Main (2nd Floor) Light Hall Lobby off Medical Center Plaza
Occupational Health Compliance

• Starting **March 1**, any staff more than 2 weeks overdue for their Occupational Health Surveillance visit (Herpes B, TB and/or Q Fever) will have their animal facility access removed.

• Supervisors will also be contacted regarding overdue individuals (for faculty, defined as their Division Chief or Department Chair).

• Any staff still overdue after 1 month will be referred to the IACUC for further action, up to Protocol Suspension.

• To regain access, research personnel will need to email OAWA with verification of Occ Health compliance. OAWA will then verify with Occ Health that the surveillance visit has been completed and reinstate access.

• Note that the IACUC can not approve any protocols or protocol changes with overdue individuals (amendments, de novo review, etc.).
New and Reviewed SOPs & Policies

Triennial Reviews

- POL.ADM.08 – Definitions – Policies, Standard Operating Procedures, and Guidelines
- POL.ADM.09 – Records Retention and Destruction
- POL.AWEL.01 – Requirements for Approval of Surgical Spaces
- POL.AWEL.13 – Recordkeeping
- POL.AWEL.15 – Use of Non-Pharmaceutical Grade Substances in Animal Research
- SOP.AWEL.02 – Genotyping
- SOP.AWEL.04 – Multiple Survival Surgeries and Relevant Recordkeeping
- SOP.AWEL.05 – Non-Rodent Mammalian Anesthesia and Surgery
- SOP.AWEL.06 – Suspended and Expired Protocols
- SOP.AWEL.12 – Euthanasia, Anesthesia, and Analgesia of Rodent Fetuses and Neonates
- SOP.AWEL.16 – Requirements for Analgesia
- SOP.ADM.06 – Investigator Managed Satellite Housing
- SOP.ADM.08 – Using a Personal Vehicle to Transport Animals
Reminder – Animal Food and Water Requirements

- Per IACUC Policy, all research staff must verify that their animals have access to food and water AT ALL TIMES

- Exceptions only for experimental reasons as described in the protocol

- OAWA/DAC has seen increase in animals with no water access due to Deprivation Cap misuse

- Do NOT move cages that are not yours, and verify caps are not present unless using water bottles
Upcoming IACUC “Hot Topics” Training

- New mandatory training for all animal users to address recent compliance issues

- Will focus on 3 topics:
  1. Assuring animals have food and water access
  2. Know when to contact a veterinarian regarding animal welfare concerns
  3. Expectations and requirements regarding analgesic administration and documentation

- Short (<10 mins) training through the Learning Exchange

- Tentatively set for April release
Operations Updates
Cage Movement – what do I need to know?

AUTOMATIC WATER & DEP CAPS IN USE

CAGE POSITION
Mouse Housing – Location, Location, Location

WATER DRINKING VALVE – NO DEP CAP

WATER DRINKING VALVE WITH DEP CAP
Deprivation Caps – Used to block animal access to drinking valves.

TWO STYLES OF DEP CAP

LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE
Cage Movement – Water Bottle Positioning

EXTERNAL BOTTLE WITH WATER ACCESS

EXTERNAL BOTTLE NO WATER ACCESS
Cage Movement & Water Access

Division of Animal Care Best Practices:

- When removing a cage from the rack, return it to the same location.

- ALWAYS test drinking valves to confirm water flow before docking cage.

- How often should you test valve?
  - EVERY TIME you dock a cage

- How can I test the drinking valve when there is a Deprivation Cap in place?

- External Water Bottles – generally not necessary to reverse bottle when moving cage

- Confirm bottles are placed correctly every time you place the cage on the rack.
Construction Updates

Imaging Animal Facility (IAF)
- Construction completed
- Holding rooms repopulated
- Procedural space setup ongoing

MCN1 Room Renovation for Frog housing
- Former fluoroscopy lab space to be repurposed for animal housing
- Equipment removal complete
- Initial demolition complete
- Project completion target date – March 30, 2022
Veterinary/Clinical Updates
New Drug – Ethiqa XR
Extended-Release Buprenorphine (Mice)

Ethiqa XR now available
- FDA Indexed extended-release buprenorphine
- Administered q 48 hours
- Available from Covetrus, Midwest Veterinary Supply, and MWI
- Similar to BupSR, but does not require veterinarian prescription
- DEA Registration & TN Board of Pharmacy License required for purchase
- Must be stored in a lock box in accordance with Vanderbilt and DEA requirements
Buprenorphine HCl—Dosing Change

Buprenorphine HCl

Literature indicates that duration of action not as long in mice as previously indicated.

Appropriate frequency of administration is q 4-6 hours (4x administration/day)
Impact on IACUC Protocols

ARIES Formulary has been updated

**New mouse protocols** using buprenorphine will be required to select either Ethiqa XR (q 48 hr), Bup SR (q 48 hr), or Bup HCl at the new q 4-6 hour frequency of administration.

**Amendments** to mouse protocols with buprenorphine will require the same update.

**All mouse protocols using Bup HCl must be updated by September 1, 2022**

Ordering & Administration information posted on the ACUP website.
Procuring Drugs & Supplies—TN Researcher License

Veterinary pharmaceutical suppliers (e.g., Patterson, MidWest, Covetrus) are now requiring a TN Board of Pharmacy Researcher License to set up new accounts.

If you have a DEA registration, you already have this license.

Online application for TN Board of Pharmacy Researcher License:
- [https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/pharmacy-board/pharmacy-board/applications.html](https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/pharmacy-board/pharmacy-board/applications.html)
USDA Species Medical Record Training

All labs working with USDA regulated species should have received training on medical recordkeeping.

If you did not receive the training or have new staff that you would like to be trained, please contact Erin Yu (erin.n.yu@vumc.org) to arrange a training session.
Necropsies--USDA Regulated Species

Any USDA-regulated animal that dies before reaching expected experimental endpoints must be submitted for a necropsy.

For the necropsy to have diagnostic value, it is important for the veterinary pathologist to be able to examine the animal and collect tissues PRIOR to perfusion or tissue collection by the researcher.

Contact the facility veterinarian/veterinarian on call when an unexpected death occurs:
- Facility veterinarian will coordinate necropsy with veterinary pathologist and researcher.
- The pathologist and researcher can work together to ensure both parties are able to collect the needed tissue.
Timely Reporting Animal Health Issues is an Animal Welfare Issue

Reminder: Contact DAC Veterinarians if you experience any unanticipated adverse consequences resulting in animal welfare concerns or death. This is especially important when working with USDA species.
Save the Date

The next ACUP Quarterly Informational Meeting
May 26, 2022