

Policy About DAR Policies and Procedures

DAR managers and directors own and are responsible for the content of DAR policies and procedures. Others may suggest edits to these policies, and the IACUC, EHS or others may review all or some semi-annually or at any time. Comments and suggested edits are welcomed, appreciated and seriously considered, but the ultimate content deciders are the DAR directors.

Policies and procedures on this site were chosen from the current Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the Animal Welfare Act under sections concerning animal environment, housing, management and veterinary care. Specific topics within those sections relate to ***animal procurement, transportation, health, wellbeing, medicine, surgery, peri-procedural care, euthanasia, quarantine, acclimatization, environment, housing and breeding***. In addition, the non-regulatory document Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL) assigns establishment of policies and procedures for ***biosafety, biosecurity and emergencies regarding those*** to the animal facility director, but considerable input from others is necessary on this topic and is much appreciated.

Policies regarding some topics are here because they are not addressed in regulatory documents or are best written by those who work hands-on in the DAR animal facility and continually DAR SOPs. ***Use of controlled drugs, use of expired medical materials*** other than anesthetics and analgesics are not addressed in the regulatory documents above nor is the need for ***calibration of anesthesia vaporizers***. ***How to categorize animals for the USDA Annual Report*** is not addressed in any policy promulgated by the USDA or any other regulatory document except the report form (Form 7023) itself.

The Guide assigns ***enrichment*** as a shared responsibility among the IACUC, researchers and veterinarians, but it is here because animal facility managers carry it out, purchase it, wash it, replace it and have closest monitoring of its actual usage.