Title: Personnel Training Requirements for Research Staff and Principal Investigators

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Director, Research Integrity and Compliance

PURPOSE

This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to outline how the regulations mandate that those working with animals in research be qualified and trained appropriately to understand and follow all guidelines and principles for the humane care and use of research animals.

SCOPE

It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator to assure that they and their laboratory staff have received all appropriate training prior to working with animals and animal tissues to ensure the safety of the animals, staff, and general public.

IACUC staff will assure that personnel listed on a protocol have completed the IACUC required trainings and will assist Investigators in facilitating needed trainings.

All research staff and investigators participating must be listed on a protocol. Protocols should be kept current and personnel should be added and removed from protocols via an Animal Use Protocol Amendment Form.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

UNT - University of North Texas, Denton
IACUC - Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
SOP/SOP’s - Standard Operating Procedure(s)
CITI - Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative
PROCEDURES
I. Training Requirements
   A. Before personnel can be involved with research animals at UNT they must complete
      the applicable CITI training courses and associated modules.
      1. Register at www.citiprogram.org and select the University of North Texas
         (Denton, TX) as your institutional affiliation.
      2. All Principal Investigators, research staff, animal caretakers, students, visitors, etc.
         must complete the “Working with the IACUC-Investigators, Staff, and Students”
         course and its associated modules:
            a) Working with the IACUC: Introduction
            b) About the IACUC
            c) Federal Laws, Policies, and Guidelines
            d) Planning Research and Completing the Protocol Form
            e) Procedures: Surgery, Antibody Production, and Blood Collection
            f) Personnel and Their Welfare
            g) Special Animal Welfare Considerations
            h) Making Changes to an Approved Animal Use Protocol
            i) Reporting Animal Use Concerns
      3. All Principal Investigators, research staff, animal caretakers, students, visitors, etc.
         must complete the courses and associated modules that are specific to the species
         that they will be working with.
            a) Any content needed for species that are not currently available should be
               coordinated with the IACUC staff or Research Integrity and Compliance.
      4. The appropriate CITI training must be completed every five years to participate
         in animal work at UNT
   B. Principal Investigators are responsible for ensuring staff are trained in the appropriate
      hands-on and procedural techniques such as surgical and aseptic training, euthanasia,
      sample collecting, animal handling, animal safety training, biosafety, lab safety, etc.
      Specialized trainings should be coordinated through the UNT Veterinary staff and/ or
      Risk Management Services as applicable and documentation must be retained and
      readily available.

REFERENCES
   1. The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
   2. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Guidebook
   3. Animal Welfare Act
   4. PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
   5. AVMA Guidelines for Euthanasia
   6. UNT IACUC Policies and Procedures

APENDICES
IACUC Standard Operating Procedures
CITI Training Web Portal www.citiprogram.org