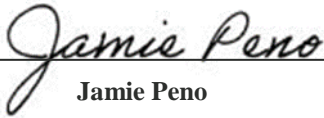
 <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> DIVISION OF RESEARCH & INNOVATION <small>Research Integrity & Compliance</small> </div>		Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Standard Operating Procedures	
Title: Occupational Health and Safety for Animal Workers			
Effective Date:	December 22,2020	Document Number:	IACUC-SOP-01-05.00
Approval/Date: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  _____ Jamie Peno Director, Research Integrity and Compliance </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> 12/22/2020 _____ Date </div> </div>			
REVISION HISTORY			
Date	Section	Author	

PURPOSE

In order to maintain safety for the individuals involved in the care and use of research animals at UNT, the Occupational Health and Safety Medical Health Monitoring for Animal Workers program has been put in place to evaluate and monitor health status of those individuals and provide recommendations and precautions or treatments from a medical health professional.

SCOPE

This SOP will delineate the responsibilities of faculty, staff, and researchers involved in research with animals at UNT (this includes any work done off- campus or in the field) as well as the Occupational Health Monitoring Processes for Animal Workers.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

UNT- University of North Texas, Denton

IACUC- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

SOP/SOP's- Standard Operating Procedure(s)

MHQ- Medical Health Questionnaire

HIPPA- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

PPE- Personal Protective Equipment (ie. masks, respirators, glove, etc.)

Animal Work(er)- anyone that will be exposed to the environment of research animals and/or handling animals or animal tissues

PROCEDURES

I. It is the responsibility of the Occupational Health and Safety medical professional to

review submitted health questionnaires in a timely manner and respond with any requirements or recommendations as they apply to the workers' health and safety when working with animals in a research or classroom setting.

- A. Medical health data that is submitted to the program will be maintained according to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) regulations to protect patient information.
- B. Medical professionals reviewing health data will communicate recommendations (ie. vaccinations needed, special PPE requirements, further medical evaluation, etc.) to personnel as well as the Principal Investigator and or Supervisor of the personnel in a way that will not disclose any sensitive or health history information or diagnoses.

II. It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator (PI) to:

- A. Ensure that all personnel are trained appropriately in the use of animals, equipment, chemicals, and hazards associated with their study.
- B. Ensure that all personnel list on an Animal Use Protocol have participated in the Occupational Health and Safety Medical Health Monitoring for Animal Workers program.
- C. Designate funding for any necessary precautions or treatments required to follow recommendations and instructions given by the medical health professional to themselves and/ or their lab personnel (ie. in-office visits, safety equipment such as respirators or special Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), lab facility amenities, vaccinations, etc.)

III. It is the responsibility of the individual participating in animal work at UNT to complete the associated forms annually and accurately and to follow any instructions given by the medical health professional.

- A. Personnel are required to have had a Tetanus vaccination within the last 10 years to work with animals at UNT and should be able to provide documentation upon request.
- B. For those that decide to decline participation in the program, a signed declination must be submitted.
 - 1. Note, participants who choose to decline should understand that opting out will have no effect on their employment or enrollment at UNT. However, it may affect their access to facilities where laboratory animals or animal tissues are used.

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

APPENDICES

IACUC Standard Operating Procedures
Medical Health Questionnaire