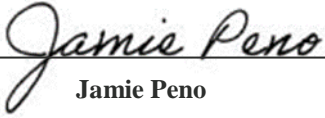
 <div> <div>DIVISION OF RESEARCH & INNOVATION</div> <div>Research Integrity & Compliance</div> </div>		Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Standard Operating Procedures	
<p align="center">Title: Animal Numbering and Identification</p>			
Effective Date:	December 22, 2020	Document Number:	IACUC-SOP-02-05.00
Approval/Date: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>Jamie Peno Director, Research Integrity and Compliance</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>12/22/2020 Date</p> </div> </div>			
REVISION HISTORY			
Date	Section	Author	

PURPOSE

The Animal Welfare Act, PHS Policy, and the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (The Guide) require that animals engaged in studies be properly identified, and that all medical records need to include animal identification to assure adequate provision of care and limitation of distress and discomfort. The Guide also recommends identification in field studies as applicable.

SCOPE

Principal Investigators and Laboratory Animal Facility Managers should ensure that animals can be effectively and consistently identified. There are several forms of identification which may be considered effective.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

UNT- University of North Texas, Denton
IACUC- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
SOP/SOP's- Standard Operating Procedure(s)
PI- Principal Investigator
USDA- United States Department of Agriculture
LAF- Laboratory Animal Facility
RFID- Radio Frequency Identification

PROCEDURES

- I. Methods of Identification and acceptable methods of animal document association may range from information on identification cards to detailed computerized records for

individual animals.

- A.** The type of document required should be based upon the type of animal, the use of those animals, and the clinical needs of an individual animal.
- B.** Means of animal identification should include room, rack, pen, stall, and cage cards with written, bar-coded, or radio frequency identification (RFID) information.
- C.** Individual Animal Identification
 - 1. Animals should be identified by individual records when they are held as individuals, when they are receiving diagnostic or therapeutic care which others would not receive at the same point in time, or when keeping individual records would enhance clarity as to the needs, provisions, and oversight of animals.
 - 2. Identification Techniques that are invasive should be completed using aseptic practices and the use of anesthesia or analgesia should be used as described in an approved AUP.
 - 3. Methods may include wearing of collars, bands, or marks by colored stains, ear notches/punches and tags, tattoos, or subcutaneous transponders, etc.
- D.** Animals may be identified as a group when the animals are all held and managed in the same manner (e.g., multiple rodents, fishes, etc. in a cage being used in the same study) or when they are being minimally managed for later use.
 - 1. The goal of group/cage card identification is to establish a relationship of responsibility, confirm the identity of the animals within, and provide a minimum of information about the animal which could assist the animal care staff with an initial assessment of the animal if it appeared abnormal.
 - 2. A group record must identify:
 - a) the number of animals in the group at the time each entry is made.
 - b) Size, sex, color, or other distinguishing characteristics which will allow a clear confirmation of this record for these animals.
 - c) Diagnostic, therapeutic, or experimental plans for the group of animals.
 - 3. Identification cards may include the following information:
 - a) Name of animal (if applicable)
 - b) Colored picture of animal (dogs, cats)
 - c) Tags, tattoos or other permanent ID
 - d) Strain or stock (rodents) or breed (larger animals)
 - e) Names and contact information for the responsible investigator(s) or laboratory designated person
 - f) Pertinent dates (e.g., arrival date, birth date, etc.)
 - g) Protocol number
 - h) Genotype information (when applicable, should also be included).
 - i. Consistent, unambiguous abbreviations should be used when the full genotype nomenclature is too lengthy.

REFERENCES

- 1. The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.
- 2. The Animal Welfare Act

APPENDICES

IACUC Standard Operating Procedures