

IACUC POLICIES, PROCEDURES, and GUIDELINES

Semiannual Site Inspection Requirements

124.1 Objective

Semiannual inspections will be employed to oversee facilities and programs. Semiannual inspections are conducted by a subcommittee of the IACUC which is minimally composed of two IACUC members.

124.2 Regulatory Requirements

PHS policy, the Animal Welfare Act Regulations (AWAR) and university policy designate the IACUC as the committee responsible to conduct inspections of the institution's animal facilities. PHS policy IV.B.1-8 requires that the *Guide for the Care and Use of Research Animals (Guide)* be used as the basis for evaluation of all of the institution's biomedical facilities, including satellite facilities and areas in which surgical manipulations are performed. Agricultural animal facilities are inspected using the *Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching (Ag Guide)*.

124.3 UK IACUC Requirement

The Principal Investigator (PI) of a program, facility manager, or a knowledgeable representative will be required to be present during each inspection. Lack of compliance with this requirement may cause the program to be subject to Continued Protocol Review (CPR). Additional information on the CPR can be found at: <https://www.research.uky.edu/office-attending-veterinarian/continuing-protocol-review>

124.4 Unusual Site Inspection Circumstances

Some facilities have special entry requirements for non-essential personnel due to their controlled environments (e. g. specific pathogen free facilities), or special occupational health issues (e. g. BSL 3 facility). For other facilities with special circumstances (such as remoteness of location), the number of people on the inspection team may be reduced. PHS policy allows the option of including *ad hoc* consultants to assist in conducting inspections in consultation with the IACUC and/or the IACUC Chair. However, the responsibility for the evaluation and the subsequent reporting remains with the IACUC. Examples of two established circumstances are listed below.

124.4 A Biosafety Level 3 (BSL3) Facility

When the BSL3 facility is "down" for maintenance and upgrades and/or when no animals are present, the usual IACUC site team of two members may carry on with a normal routine physical site inspection within the bounds of the security requirements of the BSL3 facility. When the BSL3 facilities are "up" meaning that pathogens are in use and animals are present, the IACUC will rely upon an

independent IACUC consultant. The consultant may not be one of the Principal Investigators or any other personnel listed on the active animal care and use protocols approved to be conducted in this area. The consultant may not be supervised by the PI or any of the study personnel listed on the protocol. A dedicated camera has been provided for use in the facility and will remain there. A list of required "photo subjects" will be provided to the consultant. The required digital photos as well as any others the consultant may choose to take will be uploaded to a computer within the BSL3 facility and sent to the IACUC staff office who will make the photos available to the two member IACUC inspection team. The IACUC staff will assist the IACUC site inspection team in evaluating the photos, answering any questions regarding the facility, and completing the site inspection report of the area. The BSL3 facility will continue to be inspected every 6 months when in use.

124.4 B Remote Agricultural Animal Research Facilities

University owned agricultural animal facilities are required to be inspected every six months. For areas where agricultural animal research is being conducted and located more than an hour's drive from the main University of Kentucky campus, one of the two inspections each year may be conducted by an independent IACUC consultant who reports the results of the inspection directly to a two-member IACUC site inspection team. The consultant may not be listed as the PI on any of the research protocols conducted at the site nor listed on the animal care and use protocol as study personnel. The consultant may not be supervised by the PI or any other personnel listed on the protocol. The consultant will be provided a camera and a list of required "photo subjects." The consultant may take photos of any other suspected problems or issues. Upon return to campus, all photos will be uploaded to one of the IACUC staff's computer and the photos will be made available to the two member IACUC site visit team for evaluation. The IACUC staff will assist the site inspection team with the evaluation of the photos, answering questions regarding the facility, and with completing the site inspection report.

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