

Procedure: IACUC-11
Date: September 5, 2024
Enabled by: AWR, PHS
Supersedes: June 9, 2022

**UC Davis
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)**

Title: *Suspension of Animal Care and Use Protocol, Activity, or Personnel*

I. Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to describe the process for suspension of an Animal Care and Use Protocol, Activity, or Personnel by the UC Davis Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) or Attending Veterinarian (AV).

II. Policy:

The IACUC or AV may suspend any or all animal-related activities, a specific activity, or personnel associated with an approved protocol if the IACUC or AV determines that these activities or personnel present an animal welfare or safety concern.

III. Procedures:

The IACUC may suspend a protocol, activity, or person only after the following: (1) review at a convened meeting of the IACUC, and (2) a majority of the quorum vote in favor of a suspension. If the IACUC suspends an activity involving animals, the Institutional Official (IO), in consultation with the IACUC, will review the reasons for the suspension, take appropriate action to correct the situation, prevent a recurrence, and report the activity as deemed appropriate to the USDA and the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (if the research is funded by the US Public Health Service), as well as any related funding agencies, and AAALAC, International in accordance with their specific policies.

The Principal Investigator (PI) will be notified in writing of the suspension as well as any actions required to lift the suspension. If the entire protocol is suspended, any remaining animals on the protocol will be transferred to a campus holding protocol. Animals cannot be used by the PI or laboratory staff for any activities until the suspension has ended.

The AV, or designee veterinarian, may suspend animal-related protocol activities prior to IACUC review, if warranted, because of serious and urgent animal

welfare and safety concerns. The initial notification of suspension will be verbal followed by written documentation to the PI from the IACUC.

In lieu of a complete suspension of any or all protocol activities, the AV or AV designee may halt further experimental procedures until a more informed way of proceeding is decided upon. For example, this may include necropsy results, re-evaluation of procedure details, or further training. Additionally, a specific person may be suspended from performing animal work.

Path to Re-Activation:

1. Complete actions outlined in suspension notification to the satisfaction of the IACUC.
2. Any amendments or inspections must be completed and approved, including responses to findings of prior inspections.
3. If approval to resume research or teaching activities is given, constraints may be placed on certain activities. For example, surgeries may require supervision by the IACUC or their designee.

IV. Resources:

1. PHS Policy
<https://olaw.nih.gov/policies-laws/phs-policy.htm>
2. PHS Policy Frequently Asked Questions
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/faqs.htm#IACUC_9
3. Animal Welfare Act and Regulations
<https://www.nal.usda.gov/awic/animal-welfare-act>
4. AAALAC International
<https://www.aaalac.org/>