

Procedure: IACUC-15
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Supersedes: March 31, 2022

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

Title: *UC Davis Animal Care Program Event and Emergency Reporting Policy*

I. Purpose:

To establish the UC Davis policy for the appropriate line of communication between animal facility staff, the Attending Veterinarian (AV), the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), the Institutional Official (IO), and other University officials of vital and important information in the event of an emergency or reportable event.

II. Policy:

To ensure an appropriate and timely response in the event of an **animal-related emergency** or reportable event, such that all the key animal care and use program oversight members are informed and can initiate appropriate follow-up actions. The key team members include the IACUC Chair, the IACUC Director and Assistant Director, the AV, the Facility Managers, and the IO or their designees.

III. Procedure:

A. Covered Events

While it is not possible to predict the exact nature or timing of an emergency or reportable event, certain situations rise to a level of importance that requires immediate communication that could occur after regular work hours (e.g., evenings, weekends, and/or holidays). These include the following:

1. An event where significant impact on animal welfare has occurred.
2. An event that has not yet occurred but there is a significant threat for an adverse impact on animal welfare and prudent mitigation actions may be necessary. Examples are widespread or extended power outages, flooding, or building damage due to severe weather.
3. An event that has great potential for adverse public media attention.
4. An issue that is reportable to OLAW, USDA, AAALAC or other required agency.

B. Reporting

Facility managers have the responsibility of reporting such events to the IACUC

Office and the AV. The IACUC Director and AV are jointly responsible for notifying key team members of such events at any hour of any day. It is possible; however, that due to the nature of the event, another team member may be aware of an emerging event before the rest of the team. In this circumstance, it will be the responsibility of the first team member to inform the IACUC Director or AV, who will in turn inform the other team members.

- The IACUC Director, AV, or designee, will notify the IACUC members either by phone, email, at the next IACUC meeting or, if needed, a specially convened meeting.
- The IO will determine if other University officials should be informed and make those contacts as needed.
- The IACUC Director, AV, or designee will maintain an updated list of contact information for each team member and distribute as changes necessitate.

IV. Resources:

1. Animal Welfare Act and Regulations
<https://www.nal.usda.gov/awic/animal-welfare-act>
2. ILAR, Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
<http://nap.edu/12910>
3. PHS Policy
<https://olaw.nih.gov/policies-laws/phs-policy.htm>