



A. PURPOSE

To provide guidance on the appropriate use of expired medical materials.

B. GUIDELINES

The USDA and NIH/OLAW require that only non-expired anesthesia, analgesia and/or euthanasia drugs are used in animals, even for acute (terminal or non-survival) procedures. Other expired medical materials and supplies may be used in acute (terminal or non-survival) procedures, if their usage does not adversely affect the animal's well-being or compromise the validity of the scientific study, and **IACUC approval is received prior to use.**

The following guidelines must be followed when using expired medical materials:

- Expired anesthesia, analgesia and/or euthanasia drugs **must not** be used, even for acute (terminal or non-survival) procedures.
- Expired medical supplies and materials **must not** be used for survival procedures in animals. This includes, but is not limited to, IV and irrigation fluids, ointments, sutures, surgical glue, catheters, and packaged, sterile supplies such as wipes, drapes or gloves.
- The IACUC may approve the use of expired medical supplies and materials in acute (terminal or non-survival) animal procedures under the following conditions:
 - The expired materials are used only while the animal is under anesthesia from which they will not awaken
 - The use of expired materials does not harm or adversely affect the animal, and
 - The use of expired materials does not negatively impact the research quality and objectives
- IACUC approval is required **prior** to use of any expired materials. There are specific sections to describe this use in the protocol.
- If approved by the IACUC, expired materials must be clearly labeled, e.g.: "Expired: For Use in Terminal Procedures Only" and stored in such a way that they can be readily distinguished from unexpired materials (e.g., in a separate cabinet, in a separately labeled box).
- Use of expired materials for use with post-mortem animal tissue does not require IACUC approval. However, any expired materials must be labelled, e.g.: "Expired: Not for Live Animal Use" and stored in such a way that they can be readily distinguished from unexpired materials.

C. REFERENCES, MATERIALS, AND/OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- USDA (general animal welfare): <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalwelfare>
- OLAW FAQ: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/faqs.htm#663>
- IACUC Forms, Signs and Labels: <https://research.arizona.edu/compliance/IACUC/iacuc-awp-forms-signs-labels>