

Greetings researchers,

It's been a busy few months in the AWP office, with inspections and website changes. We have several updates for you:

New Training Requirements

Updated website

Buprenorphine SR

Contact UAC during protocol planning

Verify protocol locations, participants, and contacts

Drafts & dates in eSirius

New allergen alert sign available

Emergency plans for satellite facilities

AWP office hours

USDA updates

New Protocol Participation Training Requirements

Beginning June 13, 2022, additional protocol participation training requirements for USDA protocols go into effect. UAC offers species-specific training for protocols with USDA species and has been reaching out to PIs with USDA protocols to ensure everyone listed has completed training. New personnel will be required to complete the training prior to being added to a USDA protocol, and current personnel will be required to complete training to remain on the protocol.

Buprenorphine SR

The FDA recently indexed Ethiqx XR® from Fidelis Animal Health, Inc., an extended-release buprenorphine analgesic for **mice and rats**. The widely used Buprenorphine SR is a compounded drug, purchased pre-compounded from a compounding pharmacy. The use of compounded drugs is only allowed when a comparable indexed drug is not available.

Because an indexed drug is now available, any PIs using Buprenorphine SR will need to update their IACUC protocols with this guideline in mind. Additional information will be coming soon with updated suggestions, guidelines, and deadlines for changes.

Updated website

Our website has a new look! While our address remains <https://research.arizona.edu/compliance/IACUC>, you will notice that the Compliance table of contents now lists the Animal Welfare Program, and our sub-categories are simplified.

Documents are found in their own categories as "IACUC & AWP Forms, Signs & Labels" and "Guidance." The "AWP Investigator Resources" has information for topics ranging from Getting Started, Personnel Updates, Inspections, and more.

If you find any broken links, or have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Protocol planning with UAC

Please be sure to include UAC in your protocol planning process, especially when it comes to BSL work and hazardous agents, and space options for both housing and work areas. The UAC website is found at <https://uac.arizona.edu/>.

Additionally, UAC veterinarians are available to help with your USDA-regulated protocols during the planning stages. Please be sure to reach out to them prior to submitting your protocol.

Verification of protocol details

This is a reminder that as part of continued IACUC approval, PIs are responsible for ensuring that their protocols are kept up to date, not only for ensuring the work you're doing has IACUC approval, but also to verify that all personnel, protocol contacts, and use locations are correct.

We use personnel, contact, and use location information for determining which use locations are inspected and who to contact to do so. The initial email for inspection scheduling is sent to the PI and protocol contacts.

The PI and anyone listed as a Protocol Contact, or is indicated to be a Primary Contact, must provide an office phone number and/or a cell phone number.

We recommend verifying protocol information at least monthly, and to email the AWP to make any changes needed to personnel or use locations.

Drafts & dates in eSirius

The AWP staff will begin some housekeeping on draft amendments and protocols in eSirius. Draft amendments, protocols, and deNovo renewals left without any movement will be canceled after six months. You will receive an email from the office if a draft is slated to be canceled.

Draft renewals that are still active after expiration can be confusing when they still show up on a PI's protocol actions tab. Any draft deNovo renewals will be canceled ~30 days after the expiration date if there is no movement from the PI/lab within that 30 days.

If you are unsure of the status of your protocol, please check Cayuse Animal Oversight (eSirius). The Protocol Actions tab lists your protocols and their expiration dates. You may only do animal work as described on the protocol version that is current and approved, and has not yet reached its expiration date, regardless of the availability to view in the Protocol Actions tab.

To see the current, approved version, from the Protocol Actions, highlight the protocol and select "Protocol Versions Preview." The highest version number is the currently approved version, and a protocol is only approved up to the expiration date.

New allergen alert sign

There is a new allergen alert sign with updated information available online and attached to this email. Please be sure to update your signage.

Emergency plans for satellite facilities

All satellite facilities – IE those non-UAC locations where non-USDA animals are kept longer than 24 hours or USDA animals are kept longer than 12 hours – are required to have a Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement (MUA) and an emergency plan in place and on file on your protocol and with UAC. The MUA and satellite plan templates are available in "IACUC & AWP Forms, Signs & Labels," or from the AWP office or the UAC veterinarians.

AWP office hours available

Beginning 5/24, AWP staff will hold office hours on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. We will be available on an open Zoom session to answer your questions, assist with amendments, or anything else IACUC-related. For safety reasons, the Zoom sessions will be open only to authenticated users, so you must sign into Zoom using your UA NetID, and will have a waiting room and a session password.

We hope to have time to assist everyone, and thank you for your patience while we work out details the first few sessions:

Meeting information:

Topic: Animal Welfare Program Office Hours

Time: Tuesdays 10 am – 12 pm

This meeting was created in a non-BAA environment and is not intended for the discussion of healthcare, health education, or health data research.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://arizona.zoom.us/j/83904064065>

Password: 229254

If you'd like to schedule separate time to speak with the AWP office, either during office hours or at any other time, please do not hesitate to contact us at orcr-IACUC@email.arizona.edu.

Updates regarding USDA classification of birds

The USDA recently extended the public comment period for the Proposed AWA Standards for Birds, through 5/25/2022. The AWA originally intended for birds not bred for research to be included in the AWA, but vague language and a lack of standards for evaluation effectively excluded birds from being regulated by the USDA. The proposed changes will affect our researchers currently working with birds in the field, and may affect users of wild-type birds; however, there are several questions left unanswered by the proposed standards.

The standards are intended to be published in February of 2023, however when they go into effect is yet to be determined, but slated for 2023. The AWP will continue to monitor the process and will contact any researchers who may be affected by the updates as we have additional information.

Additional information is available:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalwelfare/proposed-awa-standards-for-birds/aphis-2020-0068>