ANIMAL WELFARE PROGRAM NEWS

Late Fall 2023

Happy Holidays!

ANIMAL HAZARDS PROGRAM/OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PROCESS

The Animal Hazards Program (AHP) component of Occupational Health has fully transitioned to the RLSS User Dashboard. Labs may already be familiar with the User Dashboard as part of their other safety committee (hazards, laser, radiation, etc) and RLSS requirements.

The AWP will assist in adding staff to an Animal Hazards Program approval in RLSS User Dashboard as part of the protocol personnel process.

Additional information is available on our website: https://research.arizona.edu/compliance/IACUC/animal-hazards-program

INSPECTION KUDOS & METRICS

IACUC semi-annual inspections of PI lab spaces were held earlier this month. From all of us at the AWP and the IACUC, kudos to our PIs, their lab managers and staff! We had very few inspection findings, and lab spaces are looking great! We are seeing a positive trend in recordkeeping, training, and documentation. We like what we see! Keep up the good work!

See the attached document for additional information on the inspections and some metrics that show the scope of the inspection process.

As a reminder, rooms used for surgery, satellite facilities, or USDA species need to be inspected at least every six months, while rooms used for other activities (imaging, euthanasia only, behavior testing, etc) only need to be inspected once a year.

EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN & LITERATURE ASSISTANCE

Two free resources are available to researchers to assist with experimental design and literature searches:

The Experimental Design Assistant (EDA) is a free resource from the NC3Rs that helps build a diagram representing your experimental plan, and offers critique and bespoke feedback. The service does require registration, which is also free and easy. The tool itself is relatively easy to use and may help with designing your next project.

The USDA's Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) offers workshops on meeting the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) as well as 3Rs alternatives literature search support – even for non-USDA animals. Links for these services and more are available on their website: https://www.nal.usda.gov/programs/awic

HOLIDAYS & UNIVERSITY CLOSURE

The holidays are coming fast!

The AWP (and the IACUC) is closed for:
Thanksgiving 11/22 – 11/26/23 and will reopen on 11/27
University Closure 12/22/23 – 1/1/24 and will reopen on 1/2/24

Be sure to plan your IACUC submissions accordingly and do watch for announcements from University Animal Care regarding ordering deadlines and access information.

FUTURE UPDATED TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

The IACUC is evaluating current training requirements for participation on an IACUC protocol. It is likely that refresher training will be required during the de novo protocol renewal process. Watch for announcements in the new year for updated information and thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience.

INFORMATION AVAILABILITY & TECHNICAL CONCERNS

As a general reminder, if you run into any issues like broken links or missing courses or items, on our website or while accessing required training or documents like the GRST or CITI trainings, please let us know!

As always, if you have suggestions for information you'd like to see available or how to make it easier to access and use, please do not hesitate to reach out.

CONTACT US

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https://research.arizona.edu/compliance/IACUC
AWP Open Office Hours: Tuesdays 10am – 12pm and by appointment. Email us for a Zoom link or to schedule an appointment.