
[iacuc-users] November 2024- AWP MONTHLY BLAST

From iacuc-users-request@list.arizona.edu <iacuc-users-request@list.arizona.edu>
on behalf of

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To iacuc-users@list.arizona.edu <iacuc-users@list.arizona.edu>

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA



Animal Welfare Program



Have Questions? We've Got Answers!

Each month, we'll feature a section dedicated to answering your most pressing questions about animal welfare in research. To make this as helpful as possible, we need your input! We have a special link to a poll located at the bottom of this email.

Feel free to drop any specific questions you have to our email ORCR-IACUC@arizona.edu.



Spotlight on the 3Rs: Replacement, Reduction, and Refinement

As always, the 3Rs remain central to the ethical conduct of research:

- **Replacement:** Seek opportunities to use non-animal alternatives when feasible. *Think In vitro models, computer models and simulations, or the use of non-sentient organisms like bacteria, yeast, or plants.*
- **Reduction:** Design studies that use the fewest animals necessary while maintaining statistical validity. *Conduct pilot studies to optimize conditions before scaling up experiments or collab with other labs to use samples from a single set of animals.*
- **Refinement:** Incorporate techniques that minimize discomfort and improve animal welfare. *Stay up to date with the literature! Use improved/less invasive techniques, provide proper anesthesia and analgesia, and follow the use of humane endpoints.*

If you have any questions about effectively applying the 3Rs in your research, don't hesitate to reach out to the AWP Office or the UAC Veterinary Team. We're here to support you!



Helpful Resource: 3H Initiative: Housing, Handling, and Habituation

We're excited to share the **3H Initiative** as a valuable resource for researchers. The 3H Initiative emphasizes improving the lifetime experiences of lab rodents through:

- **Housing:** Enhancing living environments with species-appropriate enrichments and comfort focused modifications.
- **Handling:** Promoting gentle and low-stress handling techniques, such as using tunnels or cupped hands, to reduce fear responses.
- **Habituation:** Gradually acclimating rodents to procedures and environments, which can decrease stress and improve welfare.

These strategies align with the principles of refinement in animal research, helping to minimize cumulative distress while enhancing the quality and reproducibility of research data.

💡 Explore more about the 3H Initiative and how you can implement these practices in your work: www.3hs-initiative.co.uk.



Protocol Submission Deadlines: Stay Ahead of the Clock

To ensure uninterrupted research, remember to submit your protocols well in advance of expiration.

- **Key Reminders:**
 - You'll receive notifications 90, 60, 45, and 30 days before protocol expiration.
- **Recommended Submission Timeline:**
 - **60 days prior to expiration.** This ensures adequate time for review, revisions, and approval.
- **Late Submissions:**
 - Protocols submitted less than 30 days before expiration risk lapsing, requiring all related research activities to pause until reapproved.

Helpful Tip: Plan ahead to avoid delays! Protocols are open for de novo renewal 120 days prior to expiration. Early submissions help keep your research on track! For questions and assistance, contact the AWP Office.



November FAQ and POLL

Q: I got the expiration notice of my protocol expiring....now what?

A: If you are NOT renewing your protocol: Please notify the office that you do not intend to renew the protocol. In your email, specify when the protocol can be closed (e.g., immediately, at expiration, or on a specific date before expiration).

If you ARE renewing the protocol:

Protocol renewals should ideally be submitted **at least 60 days before expiration**. Instructions for submitting a renewal are as follows:

1. Log into Cayuse Animal Oversight: <https://arizona.esirius.cayuse.com>.
2. Click on the **De Novo Reviews** tab in the left-hand menu
3. Select the protocol number hyperlink
4. Complete the **Progress Report** and choose “**De Novo Review**” from the dropdown menu
5. Click **Save** and then **Start De Novo Review**.
6. Carefully read and follow all instructions and help text within the protocol. Be sure to update the protocol as necessary to accurately reflect your current research.

Once you've prepared the protocol for submission, email the AWP Office at ORCR-IACUC@email.arizona.edu and a staff member will conduct an administrative review to help guide you through the process to ensure it's ready for Committee Review.

Topic Preference Poll: What Would You Like to Learn More About? ([View/vote in browser](#))