



## A. PURPOSE

To describe the procedures for the investigation of non-compliance or welfare issues that pertain to the care and use of animals at the University of Arizona.

## B. GUIDELINES

The IACUC investigates non-compliance with federal or institutional regulations and requirements, or animal welfare issues. This includes concerns about any animal owned and/or used by the University of Arizona for research and teaching, regardless of the location of the animal. Concerns can be reported by University employees, students, volunteers or members of the public.

In addition, there is an expectation that University employees, students and volunteers involved in the care and use of animals are aware of the federal and institutional regulations and requirements that pertain to their use. It is also expected that these individuals are aware of the obligation to report non-compliance or animal welfare issues in a timely manner.

In cases where an animal's immediate health or welfare is threatened, University Animal Care veterinarians have the authority to act on behalf of the animal's welfare, up to and including immediate euthanasia.

### **Mechanisms for reporting**

There are several mechanisms for reporting concerns, which can be in person, by phone or in writing:

- To the IACUC via an online form
- To any member of the IACUC or IACUC Office staff
- To any UAC veterinarian or through University Animal Care
- To the independently operated University Ethics and Compliance Hotline

### **Confidentiality**

Reports can be made anonymously. The confidentiality of any complainant will be maintained to the fullest extent possible by all individuals involved in the review and/or investigation of alleged non-compliance or animal welfare issues.

A University of Arizona employee who discloses and subsequently suffers an adverse personnel action as a result, is subject to the protection of ABOR Policy 6-914 Protection of Employees from Reprisal for Whistleblowing.

## C. REFERENCES, MATERIALS, AND/OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- AWAR (§2.31,c,4): The IACUC must "Review, and if warranted, investigate concerns involving the care and use of animals at the research facility resulting from public complaints received and from reports of non-compliance received from laboratory or research facility personnel or employees."
- PHS Policy (IV,B,4): The IACUC must "review concerns involving the care and use of animals at the institution".
- Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals: Eighth Edition (p. 23)  
<https://www.nap.edu/read/12910/chapter/3#23>
- IACUC web page [Reporting Animal Welfare Concerns](#)