

IACUC Policy on Training for Investigators Using Animals

The federal Animal Welfare Act (administered by the USDA) and regulations of the Department of Health and Human Services (including PHS) require training and continuing education for all scientists, research and animal care technicians, and others involved with animal care and use. The updated (8th Edition) Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals now requires that personnel wishing to conduct procedures on animals or animal tissues are qualified and trained to do so on the animal species proposed. To fulfill this responsibility, the following mandatory training program has been developed.

Laboratory Animal Use Training Program:

All staff, faculty and students who are involved in the care or use of animals for research, utilizing animal tissues or listed on an animal protocol at the University of Notre Dame are required to participate in the Laboratory Animal Training Program. The program includes the use of the ALL (AALAS Learning Library) online training modules. The lessons include but are not limited to the following:

Required of all persons listed on an animal use protocol:

Working with the IACUC

Required for all persons using Mice, Rats, Hamsters, Gerbils, Guinea Pigs, Rabbits, Amphibians, Xenopus

Introduction to (insert species)

Required for all persons using Zebrafish:

Working with Laboratory Zebrafish

Required for all persons performing Euthanasia:

AVMA Guidelines for Euthanasia of Animals: 2013 edition

Required for all persons performing Survival Rodent Surgery:

Aseptic Technique for Rodent Survival Surgery

Inhalation Anesthesia Systems for Rodents

Post-procedure Care of Mice and Rats in Research – Minimizing Pain and Distress

Required for all persons working at UNDERC:

Introduction to Wildlife

All institutional affiliated individuals will have internet access to materials covering:
FLSC/ RCH Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures for Personal Safety and Hygiene
IACUC Policies and Guidelines
Policy on Training for Investigators Using Animals
Technical Services Available and Provided by FLSC
Guide to Anesthetics, Analgesics, Tranquilizers and Neuromuscular Blocking Agents
FLSC Policies and SOPs

Procedure Specific Training Program:

The Technical Services and Training Coordinator will provide access to training specific to procedures in IACUC- approved protocols. This may consist of online ALL modules, auto-tutorials, or hands-on training with the Attending Veterinarian, Technical Services and Training Coordinator, or Registered Veterinary Technician.

The areas addressed in protocol-specific training include but are not limited to:

- Aseptic Surgical Techniques and Post-Operative Care
- Surgical Techniques and Invasive Procedures
- Anesthesia Choices and Monitoring
- Euthanasia Methods
- Restraint, Injection and Blood Withdrawal Methods
- Retro-orbital injection