

University of Washington  
October 20, 2016 IACUC Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

AS	J.B	MG
CG (Scientist)	JM	ML
CG (Public)	JS	TB
CH	JFI	

Members Absent:

AB	MT	SH
JPVH	NK	SL
KL	PB	

**Opening Business:**

The IACUC Chair called the meeting to order at 2:34PM

**Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) Presentation:** Representatives from AWIC presented a training session on how IACUC members should review the alternatives section of animal use protocols. Additionally, they reminded the IACUC to let researchers know to utilize the resources of our own librarians who are willing to help researchers with their searches. They also recommended that our IACUC consider including a librarian on the Committee. The PDF of the presentation is in the October 2016 meeting folder.

Discussion: The Committee discussed database search tips and use of Boolean operators.

**Approval of the IACUC Meeting Minutes**

The IACUC Chair called for the approval of the September 15, 2016 IACUC meeting minutes.

Motion: A motion to approve the minutes as written was made and seconded.

Discussion: None

Vote on the Motion: The meeting minutes were approved with 5 members voting in favor and 6 abstentions.

**Benefit Story – JS**

This month's benefit story is on the 'Feline and Human Personality and Cat Adoption Success' project that has recently been approved. The proposed research will improve existing feline personality tests by adapting them to typical animal shelter conditions. Traits to be assessed include Neuroticism, Agreeableness and Extraversion. The goal is to better match cats and people to increase the success rate of adoptions. Individuals who will benefit from this research include not only the rescued cats and happy humans who take them into their homes, but also the shelter workers who are at risk of compassion fatigue when adoptions are unsuccessful.

**Attending Veterinarian's Report:**

**Facility issues:**

- **Humidity:** No recent reports of low humidity

University of Washington  
October 20, 2016 IACUC Meeting Minutes

- **Temperature and lights:** None

**Protocol Monitoring:**

We are making a couple of changes in the veterinary monitoring program.

Protocol 4359-01 is going to be removed from monitoring. This group is investigating whether rapamycin treatment may affect periodontal disease due to altered immune responses to the oral and gut microbiome. They are working with a new (to UW) mouse model, where a suture is placed around a molar to induced periodontal disease (on one side of the mouth, the other side is the control). It was placed on monitoring due to concerns related to potential adverse effects associated with the periodontal disease. The first cohort has been completed. The mice maintained their weights normally. The periodontal disease did develop, the gingiva was not inflamed however, and there were no apparent effects on health (based on visual observation and a weight chart). The veterinarian monitoring the protocol recommended the mice be removed from monitoring.

I have added one protocol to the veterinary monitoring program:

4203-01: The IACUC has recently approved a significant change for this protocol that adds a new model of acute gout in rats where urate crystals are injected into the joint of rats to mimic gout and experimental compounds are administered to treat the disease process. Opioids are being given as analgesics in this model. The goal of monitoring is to assess the severity of the model and to see if any additional refinements might be necessary or helpful, as well as examine the duration of analgesic administration and help determine if it is adequate.

There are 15 active protocols on the veterinary monitoring program. Nine involve surgery, anesthesia and surgery, or restraint and surgery. Five involve other procedures including one that involves tumor monitoring.

**Adverse events:** None

**HBA Subcommittee:**

The HBA committee this month and the veterinary staff presented information regarding clinical cases of disease in nonhuman primates and pigs, as well as up-dates on some projects involving large animals. STI reminded the IACUC that the minutes from meetings of the Harm Benefit Subcommittee are online following the meetings.

**OAW Director's Report** – summary in folder

STI Mentioned an increase in the amount of urgent review items. This increase was mostly due to requests for funding.

STI reminded the IACUC that the Deficiencies at a Glance (DAAG) are in folder. STI also reminded the IACUC that the minutes from meetings of the Harm Benefit Subcommittee are online following the meetings.

**Protocol Review**

Dr. Walton, 4348-01, V.8 "Brainstem Saccade Circuitry in Strabismus" - JFI

Per our IACUC's policy, decisions regarding requests for additional repair surgeries for non-human primates must be made at convened meetings of the IACUC. Policy states that relevant protocols can and should include provision for one or two repair surgeries, including justification of the need for that specific animal to continue in the study, as well as complete medical history.

University of Washington  
October 20, 2016 IACUC Meeting Minutes

**Background:** The objective of this group's research is to discover how the brain produces normal and abnormal eye movements. The major focus of their work is infantile strabismus, a disorder that affects roughly 3% of children and leads to lifelong difficulties with visual perception and eye movements. In their protocol they list two major scientific aims: 1) To characterize the signals carried by the brainstem oculomotor neurons in strabismic monkeys and compare the results to recordings in normal animals, and 2) To assess the development of abnormal oculomotor signals across different nodes within the circuits controlling saccadic eye movements. Naturally occurring strabismus is very uncommon in monkeys, so the group uses strabismus models created by performing surgery on infants to give them chronic misalignment of the eyes.

**Significant Change V8:** The group is requesting two repair surgeries for A14222, a 5yo male rhesus macaque. The group reports that he sustained damage to his cranial implant, which broke off the head post and rendered his eye coils non-functional. They used their approved repair surgery to replace the head post, and the eye coils were removed as a clinical surgery. One of the repairs they are requesting will be used to replace the eye coils. The other will be available in the future if needed. The group explains that, since this model requires surgery on an infant, and it takes 2-3 years for the animal to grow large enough to gather data, keeping this animal on study will save years of research time and avoid increasing the number of animals used.

**Surgical History:**

- Consistent with the description in the significant change
- Recording chambers and head post implanted in February, and eye coils implanted in March
- Head post repaired June 16<sup>th</sup>
- Eye coils removed June 28<sup>th</sup> (clinical)

**Clinical History:**

- Unremarkable
- In April, research staff reported to vet services that the head post had broken off – the record indicates the site looked good and was protected with sterile gelfoam and dental acrylic; no indication of clinical problems related to this incident.
- There are notes throughout the record about behavioral monitoring, which brings us to...

**Behavior Report:** This animal is currently being monitored by WaNPRC Behavior Management Services (BMS) for non-injurious self-biting, and currently receives Prozac to treat this behavior. We have not observed non-injurious self-biting since mid- August (2016). He also engages in some locomotor stereotypy. BMS has recommended standard environmental enrichment (EE) 7 days a week, as well as extra EE an additional 3 times per week, for this animal. BMS has also recommended TV enrichment twice a week and daily audio enrichment. This animal is currently in a stable social environment via full-contact pair housing with a long-term partner.

Discussion: The Committee discussed the anxiety of the animal and whether it is long-term or short-term. It was thought to be long term.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Significant Change.

Vote on the Motion: The Significant Change was approved unanimously with 11 members voting in favor.

**SOPs/Policies/Guidelines**

- **Adhesion Policy – CH**

University of Washington  
October 20, 2016 IACUC Meeting Minutes

CH summarized the policy and provided an explanation of the scoring method and examples on how to interpret it. It was anticipated that the scoring method may change slightly over time as it is new. JS gave kudos on how quickly and cohesively everyone involved worked to develop this new policy.

The Committee requested an update as to how the policy is working for December/January IACUC meeting.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy.

Vote on the Motion: The policy was approved unanimously with 11 members voting in favor.

- **Breeding Rabbit Care (cage cleaning exemption) - TB**

TB summarized the policy and explained that rabbits can become very territorial post-birth; the policy allows up to 17 days between cage cleanings.

Discussion: It was noted that Veterinary Services gives care staff a window as to when the cage can be cleaned. The Committee discussed how the policy is enforced.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy.

Vote on the Motion: The policy was approved unanimously with 11 members voting in favor.

- **USDA species, alternatives search requirement and protocol update process - STI**

Update that OAW is having some researchers update literature search to be within the regulations. Additional items are being identified for clarification later on. Potential enhancement request on alternatives page in HoverBoard.

- **Species Specific Training Policy for Researchers Using Animals - TB**

Updated policy to add rabbits, dogs, and ferrets to existing policy to be all-encompassing. Discussion about absence of Spiny Mice from list – they are rodents and are included in that section

Motion: A motion to approve the policy was made and seconded.

Vote on the Motion: The policy was approved unanimously with 11 members voting in favor.

- **SOP 0944A – Anesthesia and pre-anesthetic agents used for surgery in the WaNPRC - CH**

It was explained that the policy was being updated based on new findings and input of new veterinarians. It was noted that this would also require an update to Standard Procedures in HoverBoard. This only affects general anesthesia, not sedation procedures in HoverBoard.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy.

Discussion: STI noted that it is expected that researchers will use updated standard procedures. If they were not going to use the updated standard procedure they would be required to provide justification next time protocol is reviewed.

University of Washington  
October 20, 2016 IACUC Meeting Minutes

Vote on the Motion: The SOP was approved unanimously with 11 members voting in favor.

**IACUC NHP Site Visit Training Session Reminder**

The Committee was reminded that there will be multiple trainings over the next several months.

**HoverBoard – EW**

187 protocols migrated out of 463.

40% completed, 43% in progress, 17% not started.

Update on number of users in system, number of standard procedures and substances, where to find HoverBoard information.

**Closing Business:**

The Meeting was brought to a close at 3:45 pm. The floor was opened to public comment.