

University of Washington  
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee  
February 18, 2016 IACUC Meeting Minutes

Members Present:	AB	CJ	MG
	AS	AF	ML
	MB	JPI	MT
	CG	JM	SL
	CG	JPVH	TB
	CH	JS	
Members Absent:	PB	JB	NK
	JM		

### **Opening Business**

The IACUC Chair called the meeting to order at 2:30pm.

### **Approval of the IACUC Meeting Minutes**

The IACUC Chair called for the approval of the January 21, 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 unanimously with 14 members voting in favor and one abstention. TB and CJ were not present for the vote.

**Name Versus Initials Poll** – The IACUC Chair explained that the poll addressing the use of names versus initials indicated that there were 4 members that were not in favor of the use of full names so the practice of addressing IACUC members by initials only would continue.

### **The Benefits of Research – JS**

(Chuck Murry's Lab) Chong et al. 'Human embryonic-stem-cell-derived cardiomyocytes regenerate non-human primate hearts' Nature 510: 273-277 (2014)

### **OAW Director's Report** – Refer to summary slide in folder

Responses to previous non-compliance:

- Group didn't used mice in the time-frame specified in the protocol – The PI replied as requested and explained that he has discussed this incident with all members of the group involved in animal work, and that they will continue to work with their monitoring veterinarian. In the future they will be sure to do all work according to their approved protocol.
- Increased frequency of blood sampling and insulin administration – The PI replied as requested and indicated that a Significant Change to increase monitoring of blood parameters and treatment with insulin was submitted to their protocol. In response to these events, the following steps were put into place to prevent future non-compliances: 1) The group will

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perform a procedure review of all ongoing experiments to confirm that they are compliant with the protocol. 2) They will modify protocols and submit significant change(s) as necessary. 3) They will schedule a meeting with Veterinary Services for additional assistance.

### **Noncompliances**

- 2077-14 - The overall aim of these experiments is to determine whether exposure to diesel exhaust (DE) will cause neurotoxicity in mice (assessed by measurements of markers of cytotoxicity, oxidative stress and neuroinflammation), and whether such neurotoxicity is affected by gender and by genetic background. For these experiments, in vivo experiments are performed in which mice are exposed to DE (250  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) followed by measurement of neuroinflammation, lipid peroxidation, microglial activation and hippocampal neurogenesis in the brain. To compliment these studies, primary neurons and glial cells are cultured in vitro from the brains of mice, and cells are treated with compounds for assessing the mechanisms of toxicity and of detoxication. Although mice are exposed to DE as part of this study, the level of DE exposure is not anticipated to produce any pain/stress, morbidity or mortality. Minocycline and piglitazone are beneficial drugs that are used widely in humans, and are anticipated to provide benefit to the DE-exposed mice by virtue of their anti-inflammatory effects. These studies are of great importance not only for identifying and understanding how air pollution affects the brain, but also how neurotoxic effects can be modulated pharmacologically. These studies will greatly benefit humans who are exposed regularly to air pollution. These mice were administered the pigliatozone and minocycline because they thought the Significant Change to include these studies was approved on their protocol. This event was reported to OLAW.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to send the PI a letter of counsel requiring a reply regarding how they are going to keep track of Significant Changes and adhere to the procedures in their protocol.

Discussion: None

Vote on the Motion: The motion passed unanimously with 16 members voting in favor. CJ was not present for vote.

- 4262-01 - Two rats and one mouse were brought up to the lab on the evening on January 24, 2016 in order to set up for an early morning start on an experiment. The machines used for imaging take a long time to set up, and the investigator wanted to get the animals ahead of time so he didn't have to leave once the machines were set up. The animals remained in the laboratory, with food and water, until the imaging experiment began. This housing in an unapproved space is the second noncompliance by this PI group in the last 1.5 years. This protocol is on veterinary monitoring due to some complex proposed surgeries and the veterinarian assigned to the protocol has discussed this issue with the entire laboratory group. This event was reported to OLAW.

Motion: Due to the fact that this is a repeat noncompliance in a short period of time, a motion was made and seconded to send the PI a letter or reprimand requiring a reply regarding how they were going to prevent future occurrences of this nature.

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Discussion: CG asked for clarification as to why they brought the animals up ahead of time. STI explained that they wanted to start early and it takes 6 hours to set up the experiment and they didn't want to leave the set up to go get the animals.

Vote on the Motion: The motion passed unanimously with 16 members voting in favor. CJ was not present for the vote.

### **Attending Veterinarian's Report**

#### **Facility issues:**

- **Humidity:** Low humidity was reported in most of the animal facilities that do not have humidity control. Humidity within the centralized facility caring for NHPs has been within range. An update would be provided to the Committee on the progression of that project at the next IACUC meeting.
- **Temperature and lights:** Temperatures were out of range (lower than 64 degrees) in four rooms housing nonhuman primates on Saturday February 13, 2016 beginning at 1:30am when the heating system went down. Space heaters were placed temporarily until the system could be fixed. By 11:40am, the rooms returned to normal ranges.

**Protocol Monitoring:** There are 14 protocols on the veterinary monitoring program.

#### **Adverse events:**

TB 4092-01 Kennedy – This protocol covers the use of fish to support neurobiology class. The fish are cared for primarily by a student helper with oversight by the protocol PI. The student helper changes each quarter (this class only runs in the fall). Thirty-six Elephant nose fish arrived at the lab from the vendor in October of 2015. On November 30, 2015 evidence of disease (white discoloration) was noticed on some of the fish and the group began *Ichthyophthirius* treatment. This treatment was supposed to be done on arrival as the vendor is known to have this relatively common parasitic disease and should not have been done at this time without first consulting with Veterinary Services. One fish was found dead the next day and subsequently, sick and dead animal reports were given to Veterinary Services that evening. When Veterinary Services examined the fish, very high ammonia levels were detected in the water. Treatment for ammonia toxicity began, but their condition declined and the cohort was euthanized on December 4, 2015. In total, seven fish were found dead and the remaining 29 fish were euthanized due to acute ammonia toxicity. Several errors contributed to these issues which included failure to follow the prophylactic treatment SOP, failure to use the ammonia test kit appropriately to test the water, and failure to notify Veterinary Services immediately when the white discoloration was noted on the fish. TB recommend that she add this protocol to the veterinary monitoring program unless the IACUC felt strongly that they should vote put it on monitoring. This event has been reported to OLAW.

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Discussion: The Committee continued to discuss the circumstances surrounding this event, the SOP for prophylactic treatment, and placing the project on veterinary monitoring.

Motion: A motion was made and seconded to send the PI a letter of counsel notifying them that the protocol has been placed on veterinary monitoring and requiring a reply confirming that they understand the importance of adequate care.

Vote on the Motion: The motion passed with 16 members voting in favor and 1 member opposed.

**IACUC SOPs and Policies:**

- Food and water restriction policy – TB explained that she would like to amend the policy to indicate, “Fluid-rich treats, such as watermelon, Jell-O or grapes, can be used to provide some of the daily fluid intake between fluid-free sessions”.

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

Discussion: A Committee member asked if the extra sucrose associated with some of these treats was an issue and TB confirmed that it was not.

Vote on the Motion: The motion passed unanimously with 17 members voting in favor.

- Anesthesia Certification Requirements in USDA Regulated Animals – Status Update

TB updated the Committee on the status of implementation of the policy and requested that the implementation date be pushed back to the middle of March.

Motion: TB moved to extend to mid march. AB seconded.

Vote on the Motion: The motion passed unanimously with 17 members voting in favor.

- Washington National Primate Research Center Plan for Environmental Enhancement to Promote the Psychological Well-Being of Nonhuman Primates. CH explained that the policy was being presented for its periodic review and has not changes much since the last year, only administrative changes.

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

Discussion: policy has not changed but the EE has changed because it’s always improving. Charlotte commented video, radios are being and enrichment devices are always being improved. CG issues with the level of enrichment that is provided. CH said there is a case manager who addresses any needs that are not being met through the standard enrichment program. AF asked if classical music is being used. CH said that she is not certain what they playlist. MG said that the TVs are high definition and they are being enriched with a lot of color and music.

Vote on the Motion: The policy as approved unanimously with 17 members voting in favor.

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**Harm Benefit Analysis Subcommittee Update** – The subcommittee discussed one protocol involving footpad injections and discussed instances of morbidity and mortality seen by the veterinary staff in the last month.

**eIACUC** Refer to slides in meeting folder – EW updated the IACUC on the status of the eIACUC solution. EC explained that sessions had been given to PIs to use the system and get their feedback. Overall, people were positive. AF asked if there would be issues associated with the volume of users. EC said that the system is supported by Huron who would deal with any performance issues.

**IACUC Training**

How to deal with stressful situations during site visits. – JS

It was suggested that a staff member from the Office of the Ombud could be brought in to provide some training. The Campus police may also be another resource as they deal with stressful situations.

JS wanted to stress that reporting animal welfare concerns to Veterinary Services needs to be the first thing that needs to be done. It's ok to ask for VS to get back to you to see what happened. In addition, site visitors can complete an incident report. VS contact information is on the SurfacePro tablets, at the top of the site visit form, and also posted in animal rooms. If dealing with an irate person, it's best to excuse yourself from the situation and notify the OAW for follow up. Cindy G said it would be good to have an example cheat sheet with suggested wording and next steps to take if something is found on the site visit. The Committee discussed different scenarios. Canned wording would be helpful but does depend on this situation. STI said that she wants the IACUC members to have the tools to deal with the different types of situations and stressed that VS should be called in cases of animal welfare. JS said that it's good to try to keep an open mind and not jump to conclusions based on assumptions. If an animal is found dead, call VS. If site visitors have an upsetting situation they should reach out to review the situation.

**Other Business:**

Chris G asked to what extent the DMRs should be editing the grammar of the protocol. As long as it's understandable and accurate it should be left alone. Members of OAW can fix typos.

**Closing Business:**

The Meeting was brought to a close at 3:52pm. The floor was opened to public comment.