

University of Washington
December 20, 2018 IACUC Meeting Minutes

Members Present: AS JM (entered at 2:38) KS
 CH JPVH LJE (remote)
 FRR JS ML
 JB (entered at 2:38) KL TH (remote)

Members Absent: AB JE MS
 SL CG

Opening Business

- The IACUC Chair called the meeting to order at 2:32 pm.

Confirmation of a Quorum and Announcement

- Quorum was confirmed by KC.

IACUC Training

- IO report to the IACUC – **DA**
 - The IO began by thanking the IACUC members and support staff for their work and for the work going into the AAALAC site visit this summer. He then discussed best practices for committee functioning that were created by a UW advisory panel he was involved with. These will be implemented throughout HSA, including the IACUC and IBC.
 - The Chair asked if there is anything specific that the IO would like to receive regarding the Semi-Annual Report.
 - The IO does not want the amount of work preparing the Semi-Annual Report to be more than it needs to be.

Protocol Review

- 4316-01 – A15381 Repair Surgery – **KSH**
 - Reason for repair request:
 - This request is for one “banked repair” as the current banked repair is scheduled to be used on 01-23-19 to replace the failed micro-drive.
 - Justification for repair surgery:
 - This animal is actively being recorded from with a semi-chronic implant and continued data collection from this animal is necessary for completion of the current study. This animal is highly trained on multiple behavioral tasks that have been learned over the span of several years, and an aged animal, making her extremely valuable and difficult to replace.
 - Surgical History:
 - Previous surgeries include one headpost placement, one chamber placement (2 chambers), one Craniotomy (hippocampal chamber), one drive placement (hippocampal chamber). She also previously had a repair surgery to remove and replace a failed drive on the hippocampal chamber.

University of Washington
December 20, 2018 IACUC Meeting Minutes

- The animal currently has two recording chambers, one housing a semi-chronic drive implant and a titanium headpost.
- Additional information:
 - A15381 is a 20.7 year old female weighing ~9kg with age appropriate muscle condition and activity. This animal has alopecia. She is currently singly-housed due to a permanent veterinary exemption. BMS has recommended standard environmental enrichment (EE) 7 days a week as well as extra enrichment an additional 3 days per week, weekly TV enrichment and daily audio enrichment.
- *Questions and discussion included the health of the animal, housing status, what the planned surgery entailed including possible increased risk of infection. The committee also questioned the failure rate for the Microdrive implantation. This is one of four animals with similar microdrives; the other three have had no problems.*
- *The group has determined that, if the implant fails, there will be no further attempts on this animal. The animal could then provide limited, but still useful, data.*

Motion was made and seconded: to approve the repair with the change of the wording from chamber to micro-drive.

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved with 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining.

Other Business

- Clinical Records Discussion - **KS**
 - A single IACUC member had requested full clinical records for the animal repair surgery discussed above. It is not typical for clinical records to be provided to an IACUC, especially for NHP's, due to their often long length and complexity. Currently, veterinary staff come prepared to discuss clinical history of animals, and if committee members want to see full clinical records, there are two opportunities available; either at the Annual WaNPRC Records Review, or in a one on one sit down with a vet. Surgical history is relevant to repair surgeries brought to the IACUC and these are provided.
 - *Questions and discussion on the topic of providing full, rather than summarized, clinical records available to the IACUC included the amount of work going into preparation of the current record provided to the IACUC, the ease of access to the records, and what information that IACUC really needs to know in order to make informed decisions.*

Motion was made and seconded: to not provide general clinical records on animals that are involved in IACUC discussions, but that vets are prepared to discuss and explain at the meetings.

Discussion: None

Vote on the Motion: Failed, 6 in favor, 3 opposed, 3 abstaining

The Chair called for a revote, reminding members that they should generally only abstain from voting when they have a conflict of interest:

Re-vote on the Motion: Failed, 6 in favor, 5 opposed, 1 abstaining

Clinical records will be provided.

Approval of the IACUC Meeting Minutes

- The IACUC Chair called for the approval of the November 15, 2018 meeting minutes.
Motion was made and seconded: to approve the minutes as written.

University of Washington
December 20, 2018 IACUC Meeting Minutes

Discussion: *None*

Vote: Approved, 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions.

Attending Veterinarian's/OAW Director's Report - KS

- Announcements:
 - Adoption program has had some successes!
 - 2 gerbils
 - 2 ferrets
 - 5 puppies
 - AAALAC Site Visit – June 3-7, 2019
 - Visitors will want to meet with the IACUC. More information to come.
 - PRIM&R being held in Bellevue. If you are interested in attending, please contact OAW. More information to come.
- Facility issues:
 - Humidity: No issues
 - Temperature and lights: Lighting issue in 1 animal holding room at SLU 3.1 on a reverse light cycle (7 pm on, 7 am off) where lights were off continuously from 12/14/18 through 12/17/18 (weekend). Network adapter that controls the light relays failed and was replaced. No issues noted since that time.
 - Water leak was noted in an ARCF service area (not housing). The cold water line to the sink had a fitting that was not completely sealed. Repaired on 12/4/18.
- Protocol Monitoring:
 - Twenty-one total protocols on veterinary monitoring. Of the protocols, 13 involve surgery, two restraint (and sx), one conscious restraint, 1 tumor modeling, 4 miscellaneous (tape skirt, infection, water quality). Seven are inactive right now. 1 protocol has been removed due to group no longer doing the procedure that prompted the monitoring. 1 protocol was added that includes a new surgery to cannulate the rat thoracic duct and collect samples.
- Adverse Events:
 - Follow-up to the previous incident at Mukilteo marine station: The circuit that failed controlled the water flow system, air pump, alarms and the back-up generator. So there was no back-up power to any of the systems. As part of the prevention plan, all the systems will be on separate circuits and a redundant alarm is being installed to send out a head tank level alarm as well as a flow stoppage alarm. When there is alarm call-out or text message, everybody on the call list receives them and all are expected to respond to all alarms. There will be annual testing on the alarm system.
 - *The facility is not UW, but the UW's animals are housed there. The IACUC will look into seeing if there is an MOU with the facility. If so, it will be brought back to the IACUC for further discussion.*

JB left at 3:25

JB returned at 3:29

University of Washington
December 20, 2018 IACUC Meeting Minutes

- Follow up to cage floods at SLU 3.1: DCM immediately met with the Engineers and developed a revised SOP as to how to respond to such alarms in the future as well as how to respond to failures with the animal watering system pump (including who needs to be notified if there are pump issues). DCM believes this incident was the result of honest errors and not indicative of a larger issue with the vendor.
- Non-compliances
 - A researcher was seen returning to a holding room rack a cage of anesthetized mice that had not fully recovered from injectable anesthesia. The mice had undergone an intranasal substance administration procedure and recovered without issues but the researcher was not following the best practice, nor the instruction included on that specific procedure in the protocol, of monitoring mice until anesthetic recovery. PI took responsibility for the incident and informed OAW.

Corrective action: The PI has instructed all lab members that anesthetized mice must be monitored until awake.

Motion was made and seconded: to send a letter of counsel to the PI.

Discussion: *None*

Vote: Approved, 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining

- A lab member performed an unsupervised rat surgery prior to obtaining surgical certification. The lab member was trained and had experience in performing surgeries of this nature but had not completed the certification process. There was no animal welfare issue directly related to the surgery itself but the rat was euthanized a month later for clinical reasons and infection was noted at the surgery site. The PI submitted a written report to OAW describing the non-compliance. The PI also advocated that the infection could have been the result of inadequate sterilization of hardware due to faulty centralized sterilization equipment as other groups using that sterilization service have seen some infection issues.

Corrective action: Vet Services has reviewed aseptic technique with the group. The lab member will become certified for solo surgeries prior to any additional surgical work. Lab will consult with their colleagues using the new bench top sterilizer to assess its performance and plan on purchasing one of their own.

Motion was made and seconded: to send a letter of counsel to the PI.

Discussion: *The lab should know if the autoclave that they are using to sterilize the instruments is properly sterilizing the equipment. There is variability in who has been ensuring that packs are properly sterilized.*

ML left at 3:50

Vote: Approved with 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining

KS will follow up on the autoclave issues and bring information to the next IACUC meeting.

ML returned at 3:53

- Vet Services noted a bird researcher was food restricting wild caught birds for up to 24 hours to get them to take treats/rewards for a behavioral test. The behavioral testing with food restriction was not included on the protocol and the experiment they were conducting

University of Washington
December 20, 2018 IACUC Meeting Minutes

was not fully described. No animal welfare issue was noted with the food restriction. They have halted the training on this behavioral test until an amendment including this work has been reviewed and approved. Additionally they were transporting birds from the wild to campus in a vehicle that had not been inspected by the IACUC.

Corrective Action: The vehicle has been inspected and approved for transport of wild caught birds. The protocol has been amended to include a complete description of the experiment, the behavioral test with description of the food restriction and the monitoring during that food restriction. It is in committee review.

This will be reported to OLAW.

Motion was made and seconded: to send a letter of counsel to the PI and the graduate student.
Discussion: *There were multiple non-compliances that occurred which seems to require more a letter of reprimand than a letter of counsel. The issues were found by vet services. The behavioral experiments have been occurring for only a few weeks and animals will be going back to the wild in a matter of weeks. A letter of reprimand would go to the Department Chair in addition to the PI and grad student.*

Vote: Failed with 3 in favor, 9 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

Motion was made and seconded: to send a letter of reprimand to PI and grad student.

Vote: Approved with 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.

- From Arizona
 - Facilities items: No items to report.
 - Adverse events: No adverse events to report.

- USDA inspection on 11/15/2018
 - 2 USDA VMOs conducted a focused inspection and also reviewed our last semi-annual report and the IACUC meeting minutes since their routine inspection in March 2018. We also reported to them the November 9, 2018 incident at the Arizona facility. They had no concerns with our meeting minutes or semi-annual report and issued one noncompliant item that is listed on the inspection report. STI discussed this finding as well as the institution's recent history of USDA inspections and noncompliant items, if any. All inspection reports are publicly available on the USDA website
 - *Question: how do noncompliant items relate to fines?*
 - *A noncompliant item is noted on the inspection report and then this finding is sent to the enforcement agency within the USDA where it is determined if an institution is fined for the finding.*
 - *The IACUC is ultimately responsible for non-compliances that occur.*

Standard Operation Procedures / Policies / Guidelines

- Permissible Weight Loss in Research Animals – **KS**
 - Narrowed focus of this policy to an upper limit of 20%. More than 20% requires scientific justification and monitoring must be described.

Motion was made and seconded: to approve the policy as written.

University of Washington
December 20, 2018 IACUC Meeting Minutes

Discussion: *None*

Vote: Approved 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining.

• Analgesia in Research Animals – **KS**

- No substantial changes. Was moved to formal template, definitions were added, and redundant information was removed. Added a couple procedures to the list of categories.
- *Agreed to Remove Avertin from the examples. Change title of Appendix 4 to Analgesia References.*

Motion was made and seconded: to approve the policy with 2 modifications stated above.

Discussion: *None*

Vote: Approved 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining

• Non-Pharmaceutical Grade Substances in Laboratory Animals – **KS**

- Pharmaceutical grade substances should be used when possible. Definitions added to the top. Background was made more readable. For clinical purposes, substances should always be pharmaceutical grade.
- Added note about investigational new compounds are considered non-pharmaceutical grade.
- Avertin should be limited to non-survival procedures and if it must be used for survival procedures, there must be scientific justification and IACUC approval.
 - Work on transitioning groups away from using Avertin for survival procedures.
- *Change the listing for Diamondback to say that it requires a veterinary prescription.*

Motion was made and seconded: to approve the policy with one correction noted above.

Discussion: *None*

Vote: Approved with 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining

Other Business

- What information are IACUC members looking to capture in the response to the protocol form question “Will administering this procedure cause any more than momentary pain and distress?” There is a lot of heterogeneity in the responses to this question on different protocols, and currently no clear guidance on how to decide if yes or no is ‘correct’. – **JS**
 - *Discussion on this included many member’s personal preferences, what would warrant a ‘yes’ versus a ‘no’, the benefits of check ‘yes’ to the question (by clicking ‘yes’ on this question, the procedure auto-populates to the alternatives page where the alternatives search is documented), and the negatives of checking ‘yes’ based on very conservative criteria, the appropriate place to ask for refinement of procedures in HoverBoard, and the consideration of levels or grades of distress/pain.*
 - *Some members stated that it would be helpful to have a better idea of what distress means by having IACUC training on ‘What is distress?’*
 - *This question will be posted on the Developer of HoverBoard list serve to get input from other institutions.*

JPVH left at 4:45 pm

University of Washington
December 20, 2018 IACUC Meeting Minutes

JPVH returned at 4:48 pm

- Semi-annual report – **LI**
 - Copies of the draft report will be provided prior to the January meeting. Next meeting the IACUC will go over additional suggestions they may want to make. Send comments to LI before the January meeting.
 - *Disaster planning and emergency preparedness – all spaces have some in place, but they are not currently accessible.*
 - *Look into getting access to Husky Ready or access to the plans.*
 - *The plans are reviewed regularly – have someone come and report on the review of these plans*
 - *There are annual trainings and drills*

Closing Business:

The Meeting was brought to a close at 5:08 pm. The floor was opened to public comment.