

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTIFICATION TO PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS (PIs) WITH SICK AND INJURED ANIMALS

This document delineates the responsibilities and obligations of the Comparative Medicine (CM) and Principal Investigators (PIs) concerning sick or injured animals.

Upon finding a sick or injured animal, CM staff will identify the cage with a notification tag and notify the investigator's lab as soon as possible. Depending on the urgency of the situation, this notification will be made via e-mail and/or telephone number of primary contact (**cell phone required**) listed on the cage card and will contain a summary of the animal's condition and a recommendation for either treatment or euthanasia.

Upon receiving a sick or injured animal notification, **it is the responsibility of the Investigator** to do one of the following:

- 1) Carry out treatment/care, if directed by CM veterinary staff.
 - a) Record the treatment given, your initials and the date on the yellow form entitled *Vet Check Request/ Clinical Care Record form*.

OR

- 2) Euthanize the animal within the time frame prescribed by the CM veterinary staff
 - a) Record the euthanasia on the *Vet Check Request/ Clinical Care Record form*

OR

- 3) Contact the CM clinical veterinarian immediately to discuss and agree upon an alternative course of action.

PI is to note that if none of the actions described in items 1- 3 above has occurred, the affected animal will be considered unattended and subject to euthanasia. An animal whose ongoing treatment is changed or discontinued by the research lab without the veterinarian's approval will also be considered unattended. **Failure of research personnel to carry out veterinary orders will be reported to the IACUC.** CM veterinary staff members will make a reasonable effort to communicate immediately with the research lab in cases where an animal is found moribund or, in the clinical judgment of the veterinarian, in a state of undue pain or distress. If the investigator cannot be reached, the animal may be treated or euthanized in accordance with the P106 IACUC Policy on Authority of the Attending Veterinarian.

The IACUC and CM recognize the importance of these animals for research as well as the collective obligation to provide them with the best care possible. For humane and legal reasons, all animals must be treated or euthanized, as appropriate, once a clinical problem has been identified.

Revision	Author	IACUC approval date
Last updated	Dr Foo Tet Wei, John	3 May 2016
Revisions to:	IACUC	20 Mar 2023
1. ensure policies are in compliance with the NACLAR Guidelines 2022 and the updated Animals and Birds (Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes) Rules 2004;	Dr Lois Zitzow	
2. up-to-date with current practices; and	Dr Chew Li Li	
3. update section 4.1.1 from "emergency telephone number" to "telephone number of primary contact" to be in line with P202 "POLICY ON PI, CO-PI AND PI DESIGNATE/ EMERGENCY CONTACT"		