Post Approval Monitoring Program

Goals

The purpose of the PAM program is to monitor the procedures, experiments, husbandry and general daily activities of approved protocols and SOPs in order to improve compliance and prevent experimental drift.

- Improving the care and use of research animals – reducing pain and distress.
- Serve as a resource to the Research Community.
- Identifying training needs of campus faculty and students with regards to research animals.
- Initiate better communication between the UMD Research Community and the IACUC.
- Help prepare facilities for future inspections.

Requirements

Auditor will have access to all Animal Care and Use Facilities under the jurisdiction of the University of Maryland System.

Auditor will complete announced and unannounced inspections.

The PAM program focuses on taking a snapshot of daily lab/facility activities. Animal Care and Use Facilities may or may not get advanced notice of the date of inspection, and they will not be aware of which protocol we are auditing.

Areas of Interest:

- Surgery and Pre/Post-Surgical Care
- Humane Endpoints and Pain Scoring
- Anesthesia
- Euthanasia
- Recordkeeping (Medical, Surgery, Anesthesia, Controlled Substance, etc.)
- Experimental Procedures
- Protocols and SOPs
- Husbandry
- Personnel (IRBNet Access, Lab/Procedure Training, PQFs)
- PPE
- Laboratory Space and Equipment

Criteria for PAM Selection

Targeted inspections will be based on the following criteria:

- USDA pain categories D and E.
- Survival surgery.
- USDA regulated species.
- Food/water restriction and long term restraint.
- Experimentally caused morbidity/mortality.
- Protocols with Exceptions to the Guide.
- Labs/Facilities with previous compliance issues.
- At the request of the IACUC committee.
- Report from animal facility.

Other labs/facilities that do not meet the above criteria will be selected at random for audit.

**Exit Interview and Reporting**

After the inspection is complete, the Auditor will go over the findings with the lab/facility representative. A copy of the report will be signed by both Auditor and representative. At this time the representative will be given the opportunity to work with the Auditor on how to correct any non-compliance issues that were found.

-If minor compliance issues are found, the lab/facility will respond with a written “Plan for Correction” or an “Appeal” to the findings in the report. Investigators will also be given the opportunity to submit an amendment for minor deviations from the approved protocol.

A follow up visit may occur to ensure the corrections have been implemented.

-If major non-compliance is found, the IACUC Chair, Manager and Attending Veterinarian will be notified immediately. Further investigation and review will be necessary.

Examples:

-Animal abuse, mistreatment or neglect.
-Severe deviation from the approved protocol or SOP.