



# TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

## Operating Policy and Procedure

**HSC OP:** 73.03, **Animal Care and Use Program**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Health Sciences Center Operating Policy and Procedure (HSC OP) is to provide a framework for voluntary compliance with state and federal laws with regard to use of animals in research.

**REVIEW:** This HSC OP will be reviewed in June of each odd-numbered year by the Institutional Veterinarian and the IACUC Chair, with recommendations for revisions forwarded to the Senior Vice President for Research (SVPR) who serves as the Institutional Official.

### **POLICY/PROCEDURE:**

#### **1. Definitions.**

- a. **Animal Care and Use Program.** The Animal Care and Use Program (ACUP) is defined as the policies, procedures, standards, organizational structure, staffing, facilities, funding and practices put into place by an institution to achieve the humane care and use of animals throughout the institution.

The ACUP comprises all activities conducted by and at an institution that have direct impact on the well-being of animals. This includes animal and veterinary care, policies and procedures, personnel and program management and oversight, occupational health and safety, the IACUC functions, and animal facility design and management.

- b. **Institutional Official (IO).** The individual who, as a member of senior administration, bears ultimate responsibility for the Animal Care and Use Program (ACUP) and is responsible for resource planning and ensuring alignment of ACUP goals with the mission of the Institution. The IO signs the institution's Public Health Service Assurance statement, The IO shall report to the President. The Senior Vice President for Research (SVPR) currently serves as the IO.
- c. **Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).** The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee or IACUC is established by the IO for the President for assessment and oversight of TTUHSC's Animal Care and Use Program, components, and facilities. The Chair of the IACUC shall be designated by and report to the Institutional Official.
- d. **Institutional Attending Veterinarian (IVet).** The Institutional Attending Veterinarian is the individual responsible for the health and well-being of all animals used in the TTUHSC Animal Care and Use Program. The IVet directly oversees all aspects of animal care and use to ensure compliance with Federal, State, and Local laws and regulations as well as contemporary Standards of Veterinary Care. The IVet also provides input on new animal facility design, renovations of existing animal facilities, and planning for institutional needs.

#### **2. Compliance with laws and policies.**

- a. All activities must be in accordance with the Public Health Service (PHS) Assurance # D16-00032.
- b. Applicable local, state, and federal laws. All TTUHSC activities involving animals must be in accordance with local, state, and federal laws and regulations applicable to the care and use of animals. These laws include, but are not limited to the Animal Welfare Act;



- viii. Report to the appropriate federal governmental and TTUHSC officials any serious or continuing noncompliance with the laws and policies identified in Section 2 and any corrective action taken;
- ix. May subject protocols that have been approved by the IACUC to further review or denial, but may not approve an activity that has not been approved by the IACUC;
- x. Commit TTUHSC to meet the requirements of the PHS policy and the Animal Welfare Act;
- xi. Ensure that the institution has an Attending Veterinarian who provides adequate veterinary care to its animals in compliance with federal, state, and local laws, policies and guidelines.

**5. Animal Care and Use Committee.**

a. Establishment of Animal Care and Use Committee. The President, through the Institutional Official shall establish and maintain an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. All campuses will function under PHS Assurance #D16-00032.

b. Membership. In accordance with Federal guidelines, the IACUC shall consist of at least five members with diverse backgrounds and expertise, one of whom comes from a community external to TTUHSC. The members of the IACUC consist of at least one veterinarian (ber)-8.35.7 (Veterina19.762 -1.143 Td2Tw 9.EMC /LBody /MCID 35 BDC9b.

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