

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)

ACCEPTING IACUC REVIEWS

1. SCOPE

There are many circumstances that involve partnerships between collaborating institutions or relationships between institutional animal care programs. OLAW and APHIS agree that review of a research project or evaluation of a program or facility by more than one recognized IACUC is not a federal requirement.

It is imperative that institutions define their respective responsibilities. PHS Policy requires that all awardees and performance sites hold an approved Animal Welfare Assurance. OLAW negotiates Inter-institutional Agreement Assurances of Compliance when an awardee institution without an animal care and use program or IACUC will rely on the program of an Assured institution. Assured institutions also have the option to amend their Assurance to cover non-assured performance sites, which effectively subjugates the performance site to the Assured institution and makes the Assured institution responsible for the performance site.

If both institutions have full PHS Assurances, they may exercise discretion in determining which IACUC reviews research protocols and under which institutional program the research will be performed. It is recommended that if an IACUC defers protocol review to another IACUC, then documentation of the review should be maintained by both committees. Similarly, an IACUC would want to know about any significant questions or issues raised during a semiannual program inspection by another IACUC of a facility housing a research activity for which that IACUC bears some responsibility or exposure. This policy defines when the University of Pittsburgh will accept another institutions IACUC approval and/or require submission to the university's IACUC.

2. PROCEDURE

A. WORK DONE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH WITH THE FUNDING ADMINISTERED THROUGH ANOTHER INSTITUTION

The University of Pittsburgh IACUC will review and approve all animal care and use activities performed at this university. The work must have a University of Pittsburgh faculty member sponsor and the principal investigator must complete the University of Pittsburgh IACUC protocol submission form. All personnel involved in the study performed at the University of Pittsburgh must comply with all IACUC policies and procedures.

B. WORK DONE AT ANOTHER INSTITUTION WITH THE FUNDING ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

The University of Pittsburgh IACUC will accept the review and approval of the institution performing the work if:

- a. the performing institution has the required PHS assurance
- b. the performing institution has the required USDA registration
- c. the performing institution is AAALAC accredited (or, for Canadian institutions, certified by the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC))
- d. the University of Pittsburgh IACUC receives a copy of the approved protocol from the performing institution

- e. the University of Pittsburgh IACUC receives a copy of the performing institution's semi annual report for the year(s) the study entails or information about any significant questions or issues raised during a semiannual program inspection.
- f. the University of Pittsburgh IACUC receives a copy of the annual renewal approval from the performing institution

If any of the requirements a – f are not met as required, then the PI will be required to submit a protocol to the University of Pittsburgh IACUC for review.

C. WORK DONE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AND ANOTHER INSTITUTION WITH THE FUNDING ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

This will be handled for each institution as described in A and B above.

3. APPROVAL

The University of Pittsburgh's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee has reviewed and approved this SOP as attested by the signature of the Committee Chairperson.

Committee Chairperson

Date

