IACUC Policy 18: Veterinary Administrative Approval for Significant Protocol Changes

Policy Intent: The intent of this policy is to describe the use of Veterinary Verification and Consultation or VVC at TTU.

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1. Purpose
   a. Significant changes to a protocol must be approved either by a majority vote of a convened quorum of the IACUC (full committee review) or by designated member review. However, in the following specific circumstances (a-c below), administrative approval may be obtained by consultation with and approval of any Animal Care Services veterinarian.

2. IACUC Policy
   a. It is the policy of the IACUC that the certain specific significant protocol changes (outlined in OLAW Guidance #NOT-OD-14-126 and further specified in this policy) may be approved by the Clinical or Attending Veterinarian, with proper consultation and review of the approved protocol (including appropriate amendments).

3. Defined Changes
   a. Anesthesia, analgesia, or sedation. Please refer to the following documents:
      i. Policy 4 Analgesic Use
      ii. SOP020 Surgical Anesthesia
      iii. SOP061 Pain, Distress, Analgesia, and Anesthesia
   b. Euthanasia to any method approved in the AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals.
   c. Duration, frequency, type, or number of procedures to be performed on an animal as long as those procedures are either approved in the protocol or are approved TTU IACUC SOP’s.

4. Veterinary Accountability
   a. The veterinarian is not conducting DMR, but is serving as a subject matter expert to verify that compliance with the IACUC-reviewed and -approved policy is appropriate for the animals in this circumstance.
   b. Consultation with the veterinarian will be documented by having the veterinarian send an email (or appropriate documentation) approving the change to the IACUC Chair/Coordinator.
      i. This email will be appended to the protocol for which the change is authorized
      ii. The protocol will be updated by the IACUC Chair/Coordinator staff
   c. The veterinarian may refer any request to the IACUC for review for any reason and must refer any request that does not meet the parameters of the IACUC reviewed and approved policies and/or procedures.

Effective Date: April 10, 2015

IACUC Chair: Phil Smith
5. **References**

a. NIH Guide Notice NOT-OD-14-126

b. OLAW Webpage Significant Changes
   i. [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/significant_changes.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/significant_changes.htm)

c. OLAW Special Seminars: Guidance on Significant Changes to Animal Activities: Recording, transcripts and resources
   i. [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaweducational_resources.htm#a_08212014](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaweducational_resources.htm#a_08212014)

d. AVMA Euthanasia Guidelines –
   i. [https://www.avma.org/KB/Policies/Documents/euthanasia.pdf](https://www.avma.org/KB/Policies/Documents/euthanasia.pdf)