Texas Tech Neuroimaging Institute Animal Scanning Policy

Summary:
- At no time should human subjects have any contact with animal subjects. This includes:
  - No visual contact
  - They should not be able to hear the animal
  - They should not be able to identify anything associated with animal experiments
- All waste and supplies brought in and used in the animal experiment must leave with the animal.
- All surfaces where animals had contact (this will usually be limited to inside the magnet only) must be disinfected with an EPA-registered disinfectant.

Transport:
- Animals transported into the MRRC must enter through the west entrance of the facility.
- The MR technologists must be contacted prior to arrival at 806-742-3400.
- Upon entering the rear hallway in the TTNI, one transport personal must go and check with the technologists to ensure that the magnet space is clear of human subjects.
- At no time should the animal be station outside the magnet control rooms.
- No equipment associated with the animal should remain in the hallway outside the control room.
- The control room doors should remain closed while the animal is in the control room.
- Upon completion of the MR imaging session the technologist will first ensure that no humans are in the hallway and that all the other technologists are aware the animal will soon be transported out of the magnet area.
- When the hall is clear, the animal and all associated equipment can be transport out the rear entrance following the path it came in.

Room air ventilation:
- The scanner room must be ventilated for 30 minutes after the animal has left. No human subjects are allowed into the magnet room until this time has elapsed.

Surface protection
- All surfaces that animals come in contact with inside the facility must be covered with impermeable drappings or covering. Equipment and devices that will regularly be used for animals such as trays and carts should be dedicated to animal use only, labeled as such, and stored elsewhere.

Disinfection
- All surfaces where animals had contact, even with impermeable coverings, must be disinfected after use with 10% bleach (1 part bleach + 9 parts water, made at least weekly). This is followed by a wipe down with water or 70% alcohol.
- Responsibility for the disinfection lies with the researchers who brought the animal.
Wastes
- Animal excrement, blood or body fluids, hair, and any medical waste generated during the procedure or while in the dual use area must be appropriately packaged and removed from the facility after animal procedure is completed. This also applies to sharps containers, so that no potentially infectious materials from the animal(s) remain after they are removed. If any of these materials are spilled or otherwise contaminate areas inside the MR facility, the surface must be cleaned and decontaminated as for a human blood spill.
- All the above waste should be transported out of the TTNI with the animal.

Animal Safety
- Conscious animals should not be restrained. While their heads or other body parts might be in stabilizer, they should have the ability to move if they choose to.
- All animals regardless of consciousness must have ear protection.
- Prior to administering anesthesia the animal must be certified to be in good health by a registered veterinarian. Documentation must be provided to the TTNI before scheduling the scans.
- Anesthesia monitoring and supportive care must be provided by a registered veterinarian during any scanning procedures with unconscious animals.
- Animals must be monitored continuously until fully recovered from anesthesia (ambulatory) in their home cage.

Human Safety
- The TTNI staff should not be required to touch any animal under study.
- Any person in the scanning room during scans must complete the TTNI MRI safety program and complete a safety screening sheet.
- Any person in the scanning room during scans must wear ear protection.

Data Analysis
- The TTNI staff does not currently have any animal scanning expertise.
- The researchers are responsible for specifying all scan parameters.
- The researchers are responsible for all data analysis.

Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Printed Name ___________________________

Email address ___________________________

Name of the Principal Investigator of the study.

TTNI Animal Scanning Policy Form 3/5/2018