

Institutional Animal Care & Use Program - UTEP	
Title: Veterinary Care	
Policy#: 005	Date in Effect: 21 November 2014
Version #: C	Rev Date: 25 March 2024
In Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rescinded <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Rescinded:

A) RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of all personnel using animals at UTEP to abide by this policy. Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the IACUC when good justification is provided to deviate from this policy.

B) APPLICATION

The UTEP Attending Veterinarian (AV) is responsible for general laboratory animal care and veterinary care of all UTEP research animals.

C) DEFINITIONS

N/A

D) PROCEDURES

Duties of the AV:

- 1) Has overall responsibility for emergency health matters at the request of Laboratory Animal Resource Center (LARC) staff and research staff at UTEP. The AV may assign or direct a LARC staff member or designee to triage emergency health or other clinical matters.
- 2) Has authority to stop animal activity and, if necessary, quarantine animals, when deemed in the best interest of the animal(s). If suspension or quarantine occurs, the AV shall notify the Principal Investigator (PI) and IACUC office and Chair within 3 business days.
- 3) Provides veterinary oversight on approved research/training projects as needed; this may entail authorization for the provision of treatment (including euthanasia) if warranted from an animal welfare standpoint. If situations requiring such measures should arise:
 - a) An earnest effort will be made to inform the principal investigator (or the investigator's documented designee) beforehand whenever feasible, utilizing

the names and preferred mode of communication provided by the principal investigator and indicated on the door signage for the room where the animal is located

- b) Principal investigators are responsible for notifying the Animal Facility Manager promptly of changes in emergency contact information.
- 4) Has authority to approve interim protocol changes when AV deems such changes to be in the best interest of the animal(s) or when such approval does not increase the degree of invasiveness of the already approved protocol, with written confirmation to the PI and the IACUC office and Chair within 3 business days. The interim change expires at the next appropriate IACUC meeting. If a change becomes an ongoing modification to the approved protocol, the PI must submit an amendment for the changes to the IACUC office within five (5) business days from receipt of the AV’s written confirmation.
- 5) Provides “on-call” animal health support on an ongoing basis including weekends, holidays, and after regular business hours or arranges back-up veterinary care in the absence of the AV. Cases may be triaged as described in item # 1 above.
- 6) Participates as a voting member of the IACUC.
- 7) Reviews animal-related (IACUC) protocols and those amendments that affect personnel or animal welfare.

Review History	
Revision Version:	Revision Date:
A	21 November 2014
B	27 January 2020
C	25 March 2024