

Project Categorization of Pain and Distress in Laboratory Animals

Category I: Use of non-living tissues, invertebrates, fertile eggs or observational studies using the standard protocol application for animal care and use. Contact the University Animal Care office for assistance in categorizing and inquiring about an animal care and use proposal.

The *abbreviated component for the use of non-living tissues* covers investigations that involve acquiring, handling or manipulating the obtained from animal tissues or specimens (i.e., by direct field air, The Perichone, or Investigator must be able to provide details as to the humane methods in which a sample was obtained or collected as requested by the IACUC.

The *abbreviated component for the use of invertebrate species or fertile eggs* covers investigations that entail the use of invertebrate species or manipulation of fertile eggs that does not extend beyond a defined stage of gestational development. For the use of invertebrates, the IACUC requires review and approval if specimens are obtained commercially. The provision for IACUC approval of invertebrate studies is not mandatory for observational animal studies. Although IACUC approval is not mandatory for observational studies, it is highly recommended that investigators pursue committee approval for graduate or research projects on file with the University Animal Care office should questions arise.

The *abbreviated component for observational animal studies* covers purely observational studies that do not involve the handling or disturbing of a live animal in its natural habitat. The IACUC requires review and approval of observational studies that entail investigator permission from a government agency or granting of special permission (whether written or verbal) by private individuals to approach the species or to gain regional access to conduct the study. Although IACUC approval is not mandatory for observational studies not requiring permits, it is highly recommended that investigators pursue committee approval for graduate or research projects to be kept on file with the University Animal Care office should questions arise.

Category II: Activities that may produce little to no pain or distress in animals re specifications and standards for the proposed species.

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Procedures include momentary and skillful restraint, administration of intra-venous, intra-muscular, intra-peritoneal, sub-cuticular or intra-dermal injections and oral dosing of IACUC approved compounds; field studies that involve IACUC approved trapping and release methods; non-invasive identification methods (i.e., superficial tag placement, ear notching), non-invasive tissue sampling methods, or to obtain intra-vascular blood samples (with pre-sedation as deemed appropriate). *Chemical usage* includes the administration of harmless substances such as antibiotics, sedatives or tranquilizers. The use of anesthetics or analgesics is not

Category III: Activities that may produce mild to moderate pain or distress in animals

In General: Category level III investigations may produce minor distress, discomfort or short-duration pain