Georgia State University
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
(IACUC)

It is the responsibility of the Georgia State University (GSU) Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) to ensure judicious and humane use of animals used in its teaching and research programs that is consistent with federal requirements.

**Monitoring Biological Materials**

The injection of transplantable tumors, hybridomas, cultured cell lines, or other biological materials into rodents can pose a health risk to animals and personnel. These biological materials have been a source of mouse hepatitis virus, mouse pox, and other significant disease agents at research facilities. Moreover, rodent pathogens can be carried and propagated by non-rodent (e.g. human) cell lines when these cell lines have been propagated in rodents or rodent biological materials. Similarly, there is a concern with the potential for contamination of biological materials of human origin with human pathogens as posing a risk to personnel handling the specimens or handling immunocompromised mice harboring such xenografts.

Biological materials should be evaluated for rodent pathogenic microorganisms by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) or mouse antibody production (MAP) tests. The major disadvantage of MAP testing is the 6 to 8 weeks required to obtain results. The IDEXX Bioresearch lab offers a PCR-based alternative to MAP testing, the Infectious Microbe PCR Amplification Test or IMPACT, which is a panel of PCR assays that detects murine pathogens. Regarding human cells, IDEXX BioResearch has developed and validated a selection of PCR assays (h-IMPACT) for the testing of biological samples for the presence of selected human pathogens if such testing has not already been conducted. Typically, IMPACT testing requires 2 vials of each sample with a minimum of $1 \times 10^7$ cells/vial and a turnaround time of 7-10 days.

If your protocol involves the injection of transplantable tumors, hybridomas, cultured cell lines, or other biological materials into rodents, please provide the Attending Veterinarian the name of the cell line(s), source, test, and results of tests performed to evaluate the presence of rodent pathogenic microorganisms (and/or human pathogenic microorganisms, if applicable). If the cells are not of rodent origin and have not been tested for the presence of rodent pathogens, please confirm that the materials (cells) to be used have not been propagated in rodents or rodent biological materials. Alternatively, please contact the Attending Veterinarian to make arrangements to have biological specimens tested before use by completing the Cell Line Use Request Form ([http://ursa.research.gsu.edu/files/2013/04/Cell_Line_Use_Request_Form.doc](http://ursa.research.gsu.edu/files/2013/04/Cell_Line_Use_Request_Form.doc)). Approval for the use of biological materials in animals housed at GSU will only be given after the Attending Veterinarian has assessed the test results to determine their adequacy.
Pertinent Regulations*
U.S. Government Principles for the Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training
Public Health Service Policy
Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and AWA Regulations

IACUC Approval Date: 7/23/2015

Signature IACUC Chair: 

Revision Dates: