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.*

Policy on Approval of Significant Changes to Protocols Using the Veterinary Verification and Consultation (VVC) Process

Some significant changes to an IACUC protocol may be handled through the Veterinary Verification and Consultation (VVC) process according to IACUC-reviewed and -approved policies in consultation with a veterinarian authorized by the IACUC. This policy is in keeping with guidance provided by the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (NIH Guide Notice NOT-OD-14-126 as referenced below). The veterinarian is not conducting Designated Member Review (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. The consultation with the veterinarian is documented. The veterinarian has the authority to request IACUC review (via DMR or Full Committee Review) of the proposed changes for any reason and must request such IACUC review for any changes which do not meet the parameters of this policy. Significant changes eligible for administrative review with VVC include*:

a. changes in anesthesia, analgesia, sedation, or experimental substances;
b. changes in euthanasia to any method approved in the AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals including those approved with conditions as long as the conditions are met; and
c. changes in the duration, frequency, type, or number of procedures performed on an animal.

*Please note that changes approved by the VVC process cannot be used to approve changes which result in greater pain or distress, a change in study objectives, an impact to personnel safety, or a change from a non-survival to a survival surgery.

Pertinent Regulations*
OLAW Webpage Significant Changes http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/significant_changes.htm
AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals

IACUC Approval Date: 11/25/2023
Signature IACUC Chair: [Signature]
Revision Dates: