

Multiple Major Survival Surgery Guidelines

I. Overview

Multiple major survival surgeries (MMSS) may be permitted if scientifically justified by the investigator in the protocol and approved by the IACUC.

II. Definition:

Major survival surgery is defined as a surgical procedure that penetrates and exposes a body cavity (such as the cranium, thorax or abdomen), or produces substantial impairment of physical or physiologic function (for example, limb amputation). MMSS would entail multiple survival surgeries performed on a single animal.

III. Guidelines:

Multiple major survival surgeries must be reviewed and approved by the IACUC prior to implementation. Particular attention will be directed towards record keeping and postoperative care of the animals during the course of the procedures.

- Examples of Justification for Multiple Major Survival Surgeries
 - Surgeries are interrelated components of one project
 - This action conserves scarce animal resources (for example, nonhuman primates)
 - There are clinical reasons for multiple surgeries (for example, an emergency C-section in a nonhuman primate)

Cost savings is **not** a scientific justification.

*These guidelines are based on recommendations from the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*.