

**University of California, Merced
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Policy**

Version No. 2

Policy No. 105

Treatment and Use of Animals under Expired or Suspended Protocols

I. Purpose:

Any research or instructional use involving the use of animals by UCM faculty, students or staff requires the submission of an animal use protocol to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The protocol must be fully approved before an animal user may acquire, house, or use animals. The purpose of this policy is to delineate what treatment and use of animals is permitted and/or required under expired or suspended protocols.

II. Definition:

Expired protocol: a protocol that has come to the end of its approval time.

Suspended protocol: a protocol in which the IACUC has called for a cessation of activities order until further notice.

Research Activities: include (but are not limited to) any experimental manipulations (e.g., surgery, collection of blood, collection of tissue for genotyping, behavioral testing), special housing conditions (e.g., special diet or feeding/watering schedule, special light cycle, special cage changing cycle), collection of tissues at euthanasia for postmortem analysis, specialized breeding arrangements (for example, timed matings), or any other collection of data from animals under that protocol.

III. Policy:

The USDA Animal Welfare Act Regulations (AWARs) and the Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (PHS Policy) stipulate that the IACUC must conduct continuing reviews of previously approved research activities. Both the AWARs and PHS Policy also invest in the IACUC's the authority to suspend a previously approved study if the activities are not conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of the AWARs, PHS Policy, or the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*.

Conducting research activities under a protocol that has expired or been suspended by the IACUC constitutes a violation of both the AWARs and PHS Policy. However, the IACUC expects that investigators and their research staff will continue to monitor and treat their animals. This includes providing analgesic or antibiotic treatment to animals that have recently undergone surgery, treating animal health cases as directed by the Attending Veterinarian, observing tumor-bearing animals, maintaining indwelling catheters and other chronic implants, and euthanizing animals as required by any IACUC policy or as requested by the Attending Veterinarian.

IV. Responsibility:

It is the IACUC's responsibility to conduct post approval compliance reviews of research activities. The IACUC also has the responsibility to suspend a previously approved study if the activities are not

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conducted in accordance with applicable provisions of the AWARs, PHS Policy, or the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

It is the investigator's responsibility to cease all research activities under a protocol that has expired or been suspended by the IACUC. It is also the responsibility of the investigator and their research staff to continue to monitor and treat their animals.

V. Related Policies:

- Research and Instruction Using Animal Subjects (Policy 100)

VI. References:

- *The Animal Welfare Act* (Public Law 89-544, amended by Public Law 91-579, Public Law 94-279, and Public Law 99-198)
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Guidebook (OLAW 2nd edition)
- Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (8th Edition)
- PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals

[1] USDA AWARs § 2.31(d)(5-6) and PHS Policy IV.C.5-6