

	Laboratory Animal Resources Center	Guidelines for Taking Images of OSU Laboratory Animals	Created 6/29/2011. Revised 7/2017. 1 of 2
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Guidelines for Taking Images of OSU Laboratory Animals and Posting Video or Images to Websites, Social Media or Online Publications

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to OSU animal researchers regarding appropriate procedures for taking images of research animals and posting material and images pertaining to animal research to websites, social media and online journals.

General Information

Requests to take photos, audio recordings, or video of research animals must be included in the ACUP and approved by the IACUC. Requests can also be submitted to the IACUC through the ACUP addendum process. Photography (including cell phone cameras), videos, and audio recording of laboratory animals, laboratory animal facilities and animal procedure areas is not allowed. Permission can be granted for a photograph for a specific situation on a one-time basis with permission from the AV/LARC Director and the Principal Investigator named on the ACUP.

The exchange of ideas, information, and data is the hallmark of the research and teaching endeavor. Video recordings or photos of animals in online academic journals and other web-based publications can provide the necessary educational information and is an important training resource. However, the safety of the researcher(s), staff, and other employees, must also be taken into consideration. This information can be misused and serve as a platform by those individuals who are intent on gathering and misrepresenting information to target researchers and to rally public support against animal research. It is in the best interest of the researchers and the institution that the information posted in a public forum be filmed with the guidance and review of the AV/LARC Director or a designee.

Considerations

If you or someone under your supervision is thinking of taking photos or making a video, here is a checklist to review *before* the cameras start clicking or rolling:

1. Does the recording procedure follow your approved IACUC ACUP?
2. Is the area clutter free? Is the caging, if shown, clean and free of feces or blood?
Does the surgery meet the LARC guidelines regarding standards of anesthesia and analgesia, and aseptic surgical practice, (i.e.) fur clipped, skin prepped with a proper disinfectant,

- sterilized instruments, performed in an uncluttered clean space? Are animals draped to demonstrate only the surgical approach?
3. Will the video show and/or discuss peri-operative analgesic treatment for survival surgery?
 4. Will the presentation show and discuss surgical after-care (fluids, warmth)?
 5. Are the animals completely anesthetized before and during any invasive procedure? If awake, do the animals (and the animal handlers) *look* relaxed and comfortable?

Contact the Attending Veterinarian or IACUC Office

If you are considering videotaping or photographing your animal procedures, contact the AV or IACUC office to schedule a consultation.