



Research Office IACUC	POLICY & GUIDE: Use of the ANIMAL HOLDING PROTOCOL	IACUC Approved: Dec 2023 Page 1 of 2
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POLICY: USE OF THE ANIMAL HOLDING PROTOCOL

All animals that fall under Oregon State University IACUC oversight, including those housed in IACUC-inspected facilities and otherwise owned by the institution, must be covered by an active, IACUC-approved protocol, as required by the Public Health Service policy, the Animal Welfare Act and Regulations, and AAALAC accreditation standards.

This policy addresses the institutional responsibility for animals on the Animal Holding Protocol, as delegated to the Attending Veterinarian (AV) as the Principal Investigator, and the IACUC for appropriate oversight. Use of the Animal Holding Protocol is intended as a temporary mechanism to avoid euthanasia, assure animal well-being, and maintain institutional compliance.

GUIDE:

Examples of Animal Holding Protocol use include but are not limited to:

- Protocols that expire without a continuing protocol in place that can accommodate the animals and related activities in question
- Protocols that are suspended or terminated
- Animals or activities under review for potential welfare issues
- Animals associated with new investigators who do not have an approved protocol in place
- Animals associated with investigators leaving campus or moving to another institution without transferring remaining OSU animals
- Animals imported or delivered without an approved protocol in place

Animals are transferred to the Animal Holding Protocol by the IACUC office when a PI does not have an active, applicable protocol of their own in place for continued research or teaching use of those animals. Animals may then be transferred to other protocols, as appropriate and applicable.

Transfer of animals to the Animal Holding Protocol is completed when:

- an Internal Animal Transfer form (either through [iRIS](#) or via [LARC form](#) is filled out and sent to the PI, LARC office, Facility Manager (as applicable), and the [Animal Program Office](#); and
- the AV (or designee) accepts the animals.

Note that if an animal transfer is initiated by the AV (or designee) or the IACUC, the PI must allow the transfer to take place without any further manipulation of the animals transferred.

While animals are on the Holding Protocol, investigators are asked to take prompt and necessary actions for IACUC approval.

Conditions of the Institutional Animal Holding Protocol

When animals are on the Holding Protocol, the following conditions apply:

- **Housing Only:**
The use of the Holding Protocol is limited to appropriate maintenance of animals. Animals housed under the Holding Protocol may not be used by the PI or participants for any purpose related to the PI's protocol(s). The AV has the discretion to allow breeding to maintain species or strains of animals.
- **Animal Access:**
Any PI (or participant) use of animals on the Holding Protocol, including collection of data, is not allowed.
- **Protocol Identification:**
Applicable animal housing is clearly marked with the current Holding Protocol PI name and ID number. A Holding Protocol sign may also be posted on the housing door. Animals in satellite facilities may remain in place or be moved to a LARC-managed facility at the AV's discretion.
- **Per Diems:**
If housed in a LARC-managed facility, standard per diem fees for animals on the Holding Protocol are the responsibility of the Investigator.
- **Holding Protocol Fees:**
If housed in a LARC-managed facility, a daily Animal Holding Protocol fee applies, in addition to standard per diems already in place. Fees are assessed each day after a grace period of two calendar weeks (10 business days), and are the responsibility of the Investigator.
- **Indexes used:**
Federal grant monies *cannot* be used to pay for per diems or fees associated with animals while they are on the Holding Protocol.
- **Veterinary Care:**
Medical treatment and/or euthanasia will be performed at the discretion of the AV or designee.
- **PI protocol approval & transfer:**
When protocols are reinstated or approved, the IACUC will notify the AV, PI and the Facility Manager regarding transfer of animals from the Animal Holding Protocol to an approved PI protocol.
- **IACUC Review after 30 days:**
The IACUC will review issues related to animals remaining on the Holding Protocol longer than 30 days for potential additional actions.