



THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

SUBJECT: Animal Re-Use

DATE: June 16, 2021

Guideline on Animal Re-Use

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the requirements of re-use of vertebrate research animals, including those which have undergone a previous experimental procedure, retired breeding colony animals, and animals used in training and research. The definition of 're-use' is the sequential use of the same animal(s) for unrelated experiments. Animals which have already been used on a study, especially when the well-being of the animal(s) has been compromised, should not be reused. Examples include, but are not limited to, studies that may result in severe or chronic pain or that cause significant alterations in the animals' ability to maintain normal physiology, or adequately respond to stressors.

1. If you intend to make animals on your protocol available for re-use on other protocols, you must state such on your approved protocol. All animal re-use must be pre-approved by the IACUC by submitting a completed animal transfer form that can be found on the DLAR's website.
2. The following types of transfers between protocols require notification of DLAR and the completion of a Transfer Form:
 - a. Healthy experimentally naïve animals (i.e., excess from shipments, unused offspring from breeding colonies)
 - b. Retired breeders
 - c. Animals transferred from one protocol to another for the sole purpose of immediate euthanasia.
 - d. Animals that have been used for a simple experimental procedure (i.e., single blood, injection of control vehicle or saline)—this must be discussed with DLAR and described on the Transfer Form.
 - e. Animals that have undergone complex experimental procedures (i.e., surgeries, experimental manipulations), transferred to another protocol for the purpose of a non-survival procedure—this must be discussed with DLAR and described on the Transfer Form.
3. Animals that have undergone complex experimental procedures (i.e., surgeries, experimental manipulations), transferred to another protocol for the purpose of a survival procedure require notification of DLAR, approval from the IACUC and the completion of a transfer form.

4. For USDA-covered species (i.e., rabbits, guinea pigs, pigs, hamsters, etc.), a transfer that would involve an animal having multiple survival surgeries across protocols requires approval by the USDA.

References

1. *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, 8th Edition. National Research Council Committee for the Update of the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US).