Animal Care and Use Program
Policies & Procedures

Training Requirements and Classes for Research Faculty and Staff in the Use of Non-Human Primates in Research and Teaching

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BACKGROUND

The purpose of this policy is to describe the process by which research staff can be trained and approved to care for and perform procedures on non-human primates (NHP) at all OHSU facilities and the personnel responsible for training of research staff.

I. SCOPE

This policy applies to all research personnel working directly with NHPs regardless of degree or previous training, but excludes those who are associated with the Division of Animal Resources (DAR) since their job description requires a very specific and detailed training program.

II. POLICY

All research staff must have completed an IACUC approved training program and be approved by the DAR Attending Veterinarian in order to provide care for or perform any procedures on NHPs at any OHSU facility. The Animal Welfare Act (**9 CFR 1(C)(2.32)(a) and 2.33(a.2)** provides the WC or CWC Attending Veterinarians with the authority to approve or to withhold approval for projects until all training objectives are met satisfactorily. The Attending Veterinarian may assign approval authority to another member of the veterinary staff or other appropriately trained personnel.

III. PROCEDURES

Research staff wishing to gain proficiency in caring for or performing procedures on NHPs at OHSU should contact the appropriate personnel on the West Campus to determine the course of action that should be taken. Animal handling and procedures classes are offered by the Division of Animal Resources on the West Campus (call 503-690-5289 or see X:\West\ONPRC\Public\Compliance\Training for a listing of classes, training contacts and Access/Training Badge information). These classes provide training at all levels of complexity as needed to complete research or teaching projects. Training acquired in this manner must be described in the protocol or protocol modification submitted for IACUC review by giving date(s) of training and the procedures that were taught. Training will be scheduled with certified trainers at the convenience of both trainers and trainees at the earliest possible date and will follow the prescribed training program. All certified trainers are listed in the IRIS Database. Trainees with advanced skill by experience or education may be certified to perform a procedure without undergoing training if it is established by the trainer and approved by the Attending Veterinarian that the trainee is fully proficient. Once an individual is approved to perform a procedure, all current SOPs related to the procedure must be followed.

Training may be provided by other personnel on the IACUC protocol to which the animals are assigned provided that the personnel providing the training are approved to perform the same procedure and are designated by the Attending Veterinarian as a certified trainer.

All training information will be recorded in the IRIS Database on the West Campus and will be available for review by regulatory agencies, staff and supervisors. Responsible Conduct in Research (RCR), RCR for Animals and other training required by OHSU is available through the Big Brain system.

IV. AUTHORITY

a. **Animal Welfare Act. 9 CFR 1(C)(2.32)(a) and 2.33(a.2):** "Personnel qualifications." It shall be the responsibility of the research facility to ensure that all scientists, research technicians, animal technicians, and other personnel involved in animal care, treatment, and use are qualified to perform their duties. This responsibility shall be fulfilled in part through the provision of training and instruction to those personnel. Each research facility shall assure that the attending veterinarian has the appropriate authority to insure the provision of adequate veterinary care and to oversee the adequacy of other aspects of animal care and use.

b. **PHS Policy: Section IV.C.1.f.:** "Review of PHS-Conducted or Supported Research projects" In order to approve proposed research projects…the IACUC shall determine that the research project conforms with the institution's Assurance and personnel conducting procedures on the species being maintained or studied will be appropriately qualified and trained in those procedures.

c. **OLAW FAQs What kind of training is necessary to comply with PHS Policy, and how frequently should it be provided?** The institution is responsible for the training of its staff. The size and nature of institutional research programs varies significantly and accounts for the corresponding variation in the scope and depth of instructional programs and the frequency at which they are offered.
At a minimum, the PHS Policy and *Guide* require institutions to: ensure that individuals who use or provide care for animals are trained and qualified in the appropriate species-specific housing methods, husbandry procedures, and handling techniques; ensure that research staff members performing experimental manipulation, including anesthesia and surgery, are qualified through training or experience to accomplish such procedures humanely and in a scientifically acceptable fashion; provide training or instruction in research and testing methods that minimize the number of animals required to obtain valid results and minimize animal distress; ensure that professional staff whose work involves hazardous biological, chemical, or physical agents have training or experience to assess potential dangers and select and oversee the implementation of appropriate safeguards; and ensure compliance with any initial and continuing education regarding State requirements for the licensing of veterinary or animal health technicians. [A4]

d. Guide for the Care and Use of Animals 8th Ed. 2011. Researchers conducting surgical procedures must have appropriate training to ensure that good surgical technique is practiced—that is, asepsis, gentle tissue handling, minimal dissection of tissue, appropriate use of instruments, effective hemostasis, and correct use of suture materials and patterns. Training may have to be tailored to accommodate the wide range of educational backgrounds frequently encountered in research settings. The IACUC, together with the AV, is responsible for determining that personnel performing surgical procedures are appropriately qualified and trained in the procedures (p.115). The IACUC is responsible for providing oversight and for evaluating the effectiveness of the training program. All Program personnel training should be documented (p.15). Investigators and other personnel shall be appropriately qualified and experienced for conducting procedures on living animals. Adequate arrangements shall be made for their in-service training, including the proper and humane care and use of laboratory animals (p.200).

V. REFERENCES

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/phspol.htm#PublicHealthServicePolicyonHumaneCareandUseofLaboratoryhttp://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/Guide-for-the-Care-and-Use-of-Laboratory-Animals.pdf

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/downloads/awr/awr.pdf