

**HACKENSACK UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
Research Department Policy Manual**

Name: Managing Exemptions from Standards of Care Policy # IACUC - 122

Effective Date: 3/2013

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GENERAL

Purpose: The intent of this policy is to clarify the types of exemptions from standards of animal care, and the procedure for requesting and reporting such exemptions

Administration: The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is responsible for the review and revision of this policy.

Policy: Care and use of animals in research, teaching or testing must adhere to federal regulations, HackensackUMC policies and guidelines. Deviations from the standards of care outlined in the Animal Welfare Act Regulations (AWR), *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, IACUC approved Animal Care and Use Procedures or IACUC policies must be reviewed and approved by the IACUC. Approved deviations from standards of care are referred to as exemptions.

Deviations from the *Guide* or AWR are reviewed semiannually and reported in the IACUC semiannual report to the Institutional Official (IO).

The Clinical Veterinarian or designee may exempt an animal from standards of care based on its health, condition or in consideration of its well-being. Such exemption must be documented by the Clinical Veterinarian or designee and must be reviewed at least every 30 days by the Clinical Veterinarian or designee, unless the basis for exemption is a permanent condition.

PROCEDURE

The Principal Investigator (PI) may request an exemption from standards of care based on scientific justification. Such requests must be submitted to the IACUC in the original protocol or by submitting an amendment to the protocol for approval.

Deviations must be approved by the IACUC prior to instituting the change; unless the Clinical Veterinarian deems the deviation necessary for the health and well being of the animal(s). In such cases:

1. The Clinical Veterinarian will inform the IACUC that a provisional approval of a deviation was made for the health and well being of the research animal(s)
2. The PI must submit an amendment to their protocol for review and approval at the next scheduled IACUC meeting.

The IACUC will review the amendment and respond to the PI in writing within 7 business days of the scheduled meeting.

If an exemption is no longer needed, the PI should contact the IACUC in writing.

If the PI wishes to make a change to an approved exemption, the PI must submit an amendment and the amendment must be approved by the IACUC prior to instituting the change.

REFERENCES

Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals:

National Institutes of Health, Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare. Public Health Service: *Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (8/7/02)*. Section IV: Implementation by Institutions. Retrieved from

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<https://www.avma.org/KB/Policies/Documents/euthanasia.pdf>

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http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/departures_table.pdf

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