



University of Connecticut Health Center

POLICY NUMBER 2002-41

April 10, 2002

**POLICY: REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF RESEARCH
INVOLVING ANIMAL SUBJECTS
(RESEARCH/SPONSORED PROGRAMS)**

PURPOSE:

To assign authority and responsibility for the review and approval of research involving animal subjects.

POLICY STATEMENT:

1. It is the policy of the University of Connecticut Health Center that all research involving animal subjects, conducted by the faculty and staff of the Health Center, or research conducted using Health Center facilities, be conducted in accordance with federal regulations including, but not limited to the following:
 - The Animal Welfare Act, and regulations implementing it
 - The Health Research Extension Act of 1985
 - The Public Health Service's Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals; and
 - The provisions and principles set forth in the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.
2. In accordance with the regulations cited above, the Health Center has established an Animal Care Committee (ACC¹), whose members are appointed by the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs, upon the recommendation of the Associate Dean for Research Planning, the Associate Vice President for Research Administration (AVPRA), and the Director, Office of Research Compliance. The ACC is composed of members with diverse backgrounds and expertise, appointed in accordance with the requirements of the regulations cited above.
3. The ACC, its staff, the staff of the Center for Laboratory Animal Care (CLAC) and the administrative officers of the Health Center are responsible for assuring that all Health Center faculty and staff engaged in research involving animal subjects comply with applicable regulations and guidelines.
4. The ACC shall have the responsibility to review and the authority to approve, require modifications of or disapprove all research involving animal subjects conducted by Health Center faculty and staff, or such research involving the use of Health Center facilities, in accordance

¹ The ACC is the Health Center's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

with administrative policies and procedures established for this purpose. The ACC shall monitor and conduct continuing review of such research at intervals of at least once per year, and shall conduct biennial inspections of facilities where animals are being used.

5. The ACC, or its staff acting on behalf of the ACC, has the authority to inspect research facilities, obtain records and other relevant information relating to projects it has approved. The ACC may suspend or terminate approval of projects it has approved, and take actions that it judges necessary to ensure compliance with federal and other applicable regulations, or which have been associated with unexpected serious harm to subjects.
6. The administrative officers of the Health Center may not approve a project which has not received the review and approval of the ACC, or which has been disapproved by the ACC. The AVPRA may conduct additional review of research, which has been approved by the ACC, and has the authority to disapprove or suspend research, which has been previously approved by the ACC.
7. Health Center faculty are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the ACC's policies and procedures (available through various published and on-line sources, and on-going ACC training), conducting research involving animal subjects in accordance with the terms of approval established by the ACC, and reporting any adverse events associated with such research immediately to the ACC. It is the responsibility of the faculty to conduct research in accordance with the requirements and policies outlined in the regulations and guidelines cited above.
8. The ACC shall report to the AVPRA, and the AVPRA shall report to OLAW:
 - Any unanticipated problems involving risks to subjects or serious or continuing non-compliance with ACC requirements; and,
 - Any suspension or termination of ACC approved research.
9. The Health Center has established a specific program of animal care for animals used in its research and educational programs. The program of animal care shall be carried out by the CLAC, the ACC and the AVPRA. The CLAC will be responsible for providing veterinary care, veterinary husbandry services and expert consultation on the selection, care and use of animals in research and educational programs.

Dan Upton (signed)
Chief Financial Officer

8/1/02
Date

Richard Berlin, MD (signed)
Associate Dean for Research/Planning & Coordination

7/30/02
Date

Peter Deckers, MD (signed)
Executive Vice President for Health Affairs

8/2/02
Date

Replaces: NEW POLICY