



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

Disposition of Animals Policy

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ADDITIONAL DETAILS

Web Address

Effective: 5/8/2009
Last Updated: 10/26/2015

Responsible University Officer:
*Fred H. Cate, Institutional Official
Vice President for Research*

Policy Owner:
Bloomington Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Policy Contact:
IACUC Administrator

Policy Statement

To clarify the final disposition of research animals under an IACUC-approved protocol.

Scope

This policy applies to animals involved in research, teaching, and testing at the Indiana University-Bloomington. Different natural histories, physiologies, behaviors, and environmental requirements together with different research protocol objectives warrant that requirements for animal disposition be suited for that particular species, as has been recognized in the 8th edition of the *Guide*.

Procedures

For all animals, the Animal Care and Use Protocol form must indicate the final disposition for the animals involved. The following lists acceptable dispositions for each animal category:

1. Domestic and Farm Animals

- a. Euthanized in accordance with the most recent AVMA guidelines for euthanasia
- b. Transferred from one active protocol to another active protocol. This requires a prior request to and approval by the IACUC.
- c. Returned to a privately-owned or research-owned care unit, if client or researcher originally donated the animal(s) for research purposes.
- d. Transfer to suitable institution.
- e. Adoption by individuals, which have completed the IUB adoption form. Adoption must be an approved disposition under the approved protocol. Final approval will be granted by a LAR veterinarian. Pending adoption, animals will be housed on a space available basis. Animals on active research or teaching protocols have priority for housing.

2. Non-farm and Non-domestic Vertebrate Animals

These include birds, wildlife mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and various species of fish. Research animals and their varied physiological attributes require husbandry practices that are species-specific, which is encouraged by the *Guide*.

- a. Any method listed above.
- b. Return to a wilderness setting with the appropriate state and federal wildlife regulations and collection permits.
- c. Adoption, provided that the species poses no risk to human health and is commercially available to the general public. This supports the National Science Foundation's Broader Impacts platform, which encourages the integration of research activities with societal benefits and outreach to students.
(http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf13001/gpg_3.jsp#IIIA2b)

3. Animals Not Eligible for Adoption

- a. Genetically Modified Animals (GMA, transgenic)
- b. Animals that have undergone major surgery
- c. Animals with experimentally-induced diseases or conditions

- d. Animals deemed unsuitable for adoption by a LAR veterinarian

Fiscal responsibility for animals resides with the PI or the respective department until the final disposition (e.g., transfer, euthanasia, or adoption) has occurred.

Sanctions

Failure to comply with IACUC policies may result in non-compliance reports to the Institutional Official, the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and/or suspension of animal use privileges. In addition, the availability of sponsored research funds may be affected any time an investigator is found to be in violation of these policies.

Contacts

Subject	Contact	Phone	Fax/Email
Animal disposition	Lab Animals Resources	855-2356	LAR@indiana.edu
Policy applicability	BIACUC Administrator	855-5138	BIACUC@indiana.edu

Web Address for this Policy

<https://research.iu.edu/policies/bloomington-animal-care-and-use.html>