



## INDIANA UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH  
Office of Research Compliance

# Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Office of Research Compliance (ORC)

## Use of Expired Drugs and Materials in Animal Activities

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**ADDITIONAL DETAILS**  
Web Address

**Effective:** 6-29-2015  
**Last Updated:** 3-25-2019  
**Responsible University Officer:**  
Fred H. Cate  
*Vice President for Research*

**Policy Owner:**  
*Bloomington Institutional Animal Care and Use  
Committee*

**Policy Contact:**  
*IACUC Administrator*

### Scope

This policy applies to all Indiana University faculty, staff, and students using animals in research. The IACUC is obligated to inform research personnel about policies governing research activities that may affect research animal health and welfare.

### Background

The IACUC subscribes to *USDA APHIS Policy #3* regarding the use of expired drugs

and materials in animal use activities:

*"The use of expired medical materials (e.g., drugs, fluids, sutures, anesthetics, sedatives, or analgesics) during any survival surgical procedure on a regulated species is not considered acceptable veterinary practice and therefore not consistent with adequate veterinary care as required by the regulations promulgated under the Animal Welfare Act." The facility must either dispose of all such materials or segregate them and in an appropriately labeled, physically separate location from non-expired medical materials' Drugs administered to relieve pain or distress and emergency drugs must not be used beyond their expiration date."*

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## Policy Statement

For survival surgical procedures, it is **not** appropriate to use expired pharmaceuticals, biologics, or supplies, as this is not consistent with appropriate veterinary practice or care. Expired euthanasia, anesthesia, and analgesics are not to be used.

Expired materials such as sutures, gauze, needles, catheters, etc., may be used **only** if a manufacturer's statement of efficacy beyond the expiration date is provided.

For non-survival/terminal surgical procedures, it is **not** appropriate to use expired euthanasia agents, anesthetics, analgesics, drugs, or biologics.

For terminal procedures, research personnel may use expired suture, irrigation solution, gauze, needles, tubing, or catheters. However, if these items are maintained in the researcher's inventory, then the following steps must be taken:

- *Keep expired materials separated from in-date/current inventory.*
- *Expired materials must be labeled as, "Expired – Acute Use Only" or similar label.*

If you wish to use expired material that is not listed here, please contact the BIACUC ([Biacuc@indiana.edu](mailto:Biacuc@indiana.edu)) for consideration.

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## Reference

OLAW Frequently Asked Questions on PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. F.5. Revised November 28, 2017.

USDA APHIS Policy #3 - *Expired Medical Materials*  
<https://www.nal.usda.gov/sites/default/files/Policy3.pdf>

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## Contacts

Bloomington Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee  
Bloomington, IN 47408 (812) 855-5138

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>
Use of expired materials	Lab Animal Resources	855-2356	<a href="mailto:lar@indiana.edu">lar@indiana.edu</a>
Policy	IACUC Administrator	855-5138	<a href="mailto:biacuc@indiana.edu">biacuc@indiana.edu</a>

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## Web Address for This Policy

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