Use of Expired Drugs and Materials in Animal Activities

Scope

This policy applies to all Indiana University faculty, staff, and students in the use of animals in research. The IUSM IACUC is obligated to provide policies that notify and train personnel concerning the appropriate techniques, equipment, and agents for performing appropriate procedures to ensure humane care and use of laboratory animals.

Background

The Indiana University IACUC’s subscribes to USDA APHIS Policy #3 regarding the use of expired drugs and materials in animal use activities:

"The use of expired medical materials such as drugs, fluids, or sutures on animals is not considered to be acceptable veterinary practice and does not constitute adequate veterinary 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."

Policy Statement

Expired materials such as sutures or irrigation solutions may be used in acute terminal procedures or in cadavers. However, they must be removed from similar, in-date materials and clearly labeled: 'Expired Materials For Acute Terminal Use Only' Not for use in Survival Surgeries

NO expired anesthetic or analgesic drugs may be used in terminal or other procedures.

References

- USDA APHIS Policy #3 Expired Medical Materials