

The Greenwood Genetic Center Research Policies

Responsibility and Authority of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

Approved:

Statement:

In order to demonstrate the Center's commitment to the requirements of the Animal Welfare Act, the Health Research Extension Act, and to acquire accreditation for our animal care and use program and our Aquatic Facility by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care - this policy establishes the responsibilities and authority of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The policies outlined are in accordance with the laws, regulations, and accreditation standards set forth by these Acts. Additionally, this policy establishes the Greenwood Genetic Center's commitment to ensure public confidence in our care and use of animals.

In accordance with the laws and standards, the Director of the GGC has established the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Committee membership is structured according to federal requirements and members are appointed by the Institutional Official, the Director of the Center.

The IACUC is committed to ensuring all vertebrate animals (i.e. zebrafish) used in GGC research receive humane care and use. In order to accomplish this, the IACUC has the responsibility and authority to review, approve, deny, or require changes in research activities involving the care and use of vertebrate animals. At least once monthly the IACUC is available to review newly proposed animal work. The IACUC's availability does not depend on the source of the funding, the faculty, staff, or student proposing the use of vertebrate animals for research purposes. No animal use may begin without the IACUC's approval, and annual and triennial review of approved research is required.

The IACUC has established procedures for reporting, without fear of reprisal, concerns about the humane care and use of vertebrate animals utilized in research at the Greenwood Genetic Center, as well as procedures for investigating these concerns. The Committee also regularly inspects and monitors the animal care and use program and facilities at the GGC to ensure all components are in compliance with relevant regulations, guidelines and accreditation standards. The specific responsibilities and authority are listed below.

Policy:

In accordance with federal requirements, the Greenwood Genetic Center has established an IACUC with the responsibility and authority to perform the following mandates:

1. Review, at least once every 6 months, the GGC's program for animal care and use. This review is based on the Animal Welfare Act Regulations (AWAR), PHS Policy, the ILAR Guide, and the Guidance on the Husbandry and Care of Zebrafish. The program reviews include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - 1) IACUC membership and function
 - 2) IACUC Records and Reporting Requirements
 - 3) Veterinary Care
 - 4) Personnel Qualifications and Training
 - 5) Occupational Health and Safety
2. Inspect, at least every 6 months, the zebrafish Aquatic facility, as well as any additional areas where live zebrafish are utilized. Inspections will use the AWARs, PHS Policies, the ILAR Guide, and The Guidance as a basis for evaluation. The IACUC uses the PHS checklist during inspections. The facility inspections include, but are not limited to, inspection of the following:
 - 1) Animal Housing Areas
 - 2) Feed and Tank Storage Areas
 - 3) Animal Procedure Areas
 - 4) Other Animal Care and Use Support Areas
3. Submit to the IO reports of the above evaluations which distinguish significant from minor deficiencies and contain a plan and schedule for correcting each deficiency. In addition, the reports are to describe any changes or departures from the ILAR Guide, The Guidance, and the PHS Policy, and must also contain the minority views discussed. All reports must be signed by the majority of the IACUC.
4. Review animal-use protocols, approve, require modifications in or withhold approval of those components of proposed activities related to the care and use of animals.

5. Review and approve, require modifications in or withhold approval of proposed significant changes regarding the care and use of animals in on-going activities.
6. Review and if warranted, investigate concerns involving the care and use of animals at the GGC resulting from public complaints or from reports of non-compliance received from personnel at the GGC.
7. Suspend any activity involving animals if it does not comply with the AWARs, PHS Policy, the ILAR Guide, and The Guidance. Non-compliances and suspensions must be reported to the OLAW and once accredited also the AAALAC.
8. Make recommendations to the 10 regarding any aspect of the GGC's animal care and use program, facilities or personnel training.

Approved:

Date: 05/21/2018

Steven A. Skinner, M.D.
Director of the Greenwood Genetic Center