

IACUC Policy regarding the stabilization of animals before use in research

Responsible Official: **VP for Research Administration**

Administering Division/Department: **IACUC**

Effective Date: 7/28/2005

Last Revision: 7/1/2009

I. Policy

Following receipt of animals from an approved vendor to an Emory University facility, animals should be maintained in their home cages/pens for at least 72 hours prior to use in teaching or research activities to allow for a period of initial physiologic, psychological, and nutritional stabilization. Animals coming from unapproved vendors or other institutions must go through a period of quarantine¹. There would be no need for additional stabilization following the quarantine period.

Emory University follows guidance provided by the National Research Council's *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*.² The researcher, in conjunction with the IACUC and veterinary staff, shall evaluate whether additional time for stabilization would be necessary and appropriate. This can be accomplished during the veterinarian consult of IACUC protocols. Exemptions from this policy must be approved by the IACUC.

Stabilization of animals under the terms of this policy is not required when transporting animals between buildings on the Emory University campus.

II. Definitions of Key Terms Specific to this Policy

- a. Emory University campus – includes buildings at Emory University, Yerkes Main Station, Yerkes Field station, Emory University Hospital Midtown, Briarcliff Campus, and Wesley Woods.
- b. Stabilization - The interval of time permitting the restoration of homeostasis and normal behavioral and/or physiologic function following a disruptive event or stressful experience and, where applicable, also allowing for subsequent adaptation to a new environment.
- c. Approved Vendors: see http://www.dar.emory.edu/admin_vendorlist.htm

¹ Please contact Division of Animal Resources or Yerkes National Primate Research Center for additional information regarding quarantine.

² Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, National Research Council, 1996, pg. 58.

III. Applicability

This policy applies to all Emory research related animal activities that fall under the IACUC's jurisdiction.

IV. Contact Information

Subject	Contact	Phone	Email
Clarification of Policy	IACUC Office	404-712-0734	IACUC@emory.edu
Guidance on Posting Policies (technical)	AAIT Web & Communications Team	404-727-5440	Policies-1@listserv.emory.edu
Anonymous Concerns	Emory Trust Line	1-888-550-8850	

V. Revision History

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