IACUC GUIDELINE: Transportation of Animals

Guideline #: IACUC-520.00  IACUC Approval: Nov 11 2015

Purpose:
This guideline serves the purpose to describe the procedures for transporting animals covered by IACUC protocols both on and off campus.

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1) Guideline:
a. Transporting animals outside an animal facility must be described in the IACUC-approved animal use protocol (ACUP or AUP).
b. University owned or leased vehicles appropriate for animal transport must be used.
c. Public transportation (e.g., shuttle buses) and the use of bicycles, motor cycles or motor scooters are not permitted.
d. Transportation between animal facilities requires the approval of the facility managers and Principal Investigators (PI) or designees.
e. This guideline does not apply to privately owned animals.
f. Any exceptions to this guideline must be approved by the IACUC.

2) Procedure:
a. Follow ACUP 515 Animal Transport Outside Animal Facilities.
b. Follow ACUP 511 Cleaning and Sanitizing Materials Used in the Transport of Animals.
c. Follow facility-specific SOP’s and applicable local, state, and federal regulations for transportation of animals.
d. If these guidelines cannot be followed, contact the AV and/ or IACUC with details specific to your animal transportation request.

3) Regulatory Mandates and Guidelines
a. Animal transportation may be intrainstitutional, interinstitutional or between a commercial or non-commercial source and a research facility. For wildlife, transportation may occur between the capture site and field holding facilities. Careful planning for all types of transportation should occur to ensure animal safety and well-being. The process of transportation should provide an appropriate level of animal biosecurity while minimizing zoonotic risks, protecting against environmental extremes, avoiding overcrowding, providing for animal physical, physiologic or behavioral needs and comfort, and protecting the animals and personnel from physical trauma.
b. Movement of animals within or between sites or institutions should be planned and coordinated by responsible and well-trained persons at the sending and receiving sites to minimize animal transit time or delays in receipt. Defining and delegating this responsibility to the appropriate persons, who are knowledgeable about the needs of the species being shipped, will help ensure effective communication and planning of animal transport.
c. For non-commercial sources of animals, in particular, it is important for the veterinarian or the veterinarian’s designee to review the health status and other housing and husbandry requirements prior to
authorizing shipment of animals. This will ensure that effective quarantine practices are implemented for incoming animals as well as addressing any special requirements needed to ensure animal well-being.

**History:**
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