



AAALAC International Perspectives for Harmonization

Javier Guillén, DVM
Senior Director Europe & Latin America

RSPCA-Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm 25 August 2022



AAALAC INTERNATIONAL | ACCREDIT@AAALAC.ORG | WWW.AAALAC.ORG



Severe
Suffering

- Training/Engagement researchers, vets, animal care personnel
- AWB/Ethics Committees
- Project follow up
- Sharing practices and data
- Support from funders, publishers, competent authorities
- International organizations



AAALAC International

Private, nonprofit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through a **voluntary** accreditation program

2022: near 1100 accredited
institutional animal care and use programs
in 51 countries





AAALAC Evaluation



Diverse

- Legislation
- Research
- Culture

Program Description



c. Special Considerations for IACUC/OB Review [Guide, pp. 5; 27-33]

i. Experimental and Humane Endpoints [Guide, pp. 27-28]

- 1) Describe the IACUC/OB's review of "humane endpoints," i.e., alternatives to experimental endpoints to prevent or in response to unrelieved animal pain and distress.

- 2) For studies in which humane alternative endpoints are not available, describe the IACUC/OB's consideration of animal monitoring and other means used to minimize pain and distress (e.g., pilot studies, special monitoring, other alternatives).

- 3) Identify personnel responsible for monitoring animals for potential pain and distress and describe any mechanisms in place to ensure that the personnel have received appropriate species- and study-specific training.

Program Description



ii. Unexpected Outcomes that Affect Animal Well-being [Guide, pp. 28-29]

Describe how unexpected outcomes of experimental procedures (e.g., unexpected morbidity or mortality, unanticipated phenotypes in genetically-modified animals) are identified, interpreted, and reported to the IACUC/OB.

- 1) Briefly describe the policies for the use of physical restraint procedures or devices. Include, if applicable, the IACUC/OB definition of “prolonged.”

- 1) Describe the IACUC/OB's expectations regarding multiple survival surgery (major or minor) on a single animal.

3. Investigating and Reporting Animal Welfare Concerns [Guide, pp. 23-24]

Describe institutional methods for reporting and investigating animal welfare concerns.

Program Description



Summarise the types of protocols/projects that require food and/or fluid regulation or restriction, including:

- justification
- species involved
- length and type of food/fluid regulation
- animal health monitoring procedures and frequency (e.g., body weight, blood urea nitrogen, urine/fecal output, food/fluid consumption).
- methods of ensuring adequate nutrition and hydration during the regulated period.

Appendix 5: Animal Usage

Project/Protocol Title	IACUC/OB Number	Principal Investigator	Species	Total Number of Animals Approved	Pain & Distress Category (Severity Classification) (1)	Special Considerations (use checkmark if applicable)					
						SS (2)	MS (3)	FFR (4)	PR (5)	HAU (6)	NCA (7)

Program Description



a. Describe the procedure(s) for daily observation of animals for illness or abnormal behaviour, including:

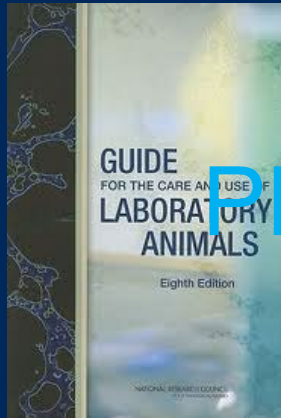
- the observers' training for this responsibility
- method(s) for reporting observations (written or verbal)
- method(s) for ensuring that reported cases are appropriately managed in a timely manner.

a. Describe the procedures to ensure that emergency veterinary care is continuously available for animals during and outside of regular work hours, including access to drugs or other therapeutics and equipment.

b. Describe the authority of the Designated Veterinarian or his/her designee relative to the emergency treatment of animals in the programme.



Guide



ETS 123 (Appendix A)

Ag Guide

Guide for the Care and Use
of Agricultural Animals
in Research and Teaching



PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

ENGINEERING STANDARDS





Performance Standards

- Outcome oriented, focused on expected results rather than the process used to achieve the results
- Allow flexibility to fit different situations
- They require the outcome to be defined in detail and must provide specific criteria for assessing the outcome



Example Cage Washing

?



i



Looking to the Future: Performance Standards on Severe Suffering



- Number of animals with prospective and actual “severe” classification
- Definition and Implementation of endpoints
- Reports on unexpected outcomes/interventions/adverse events
- ...

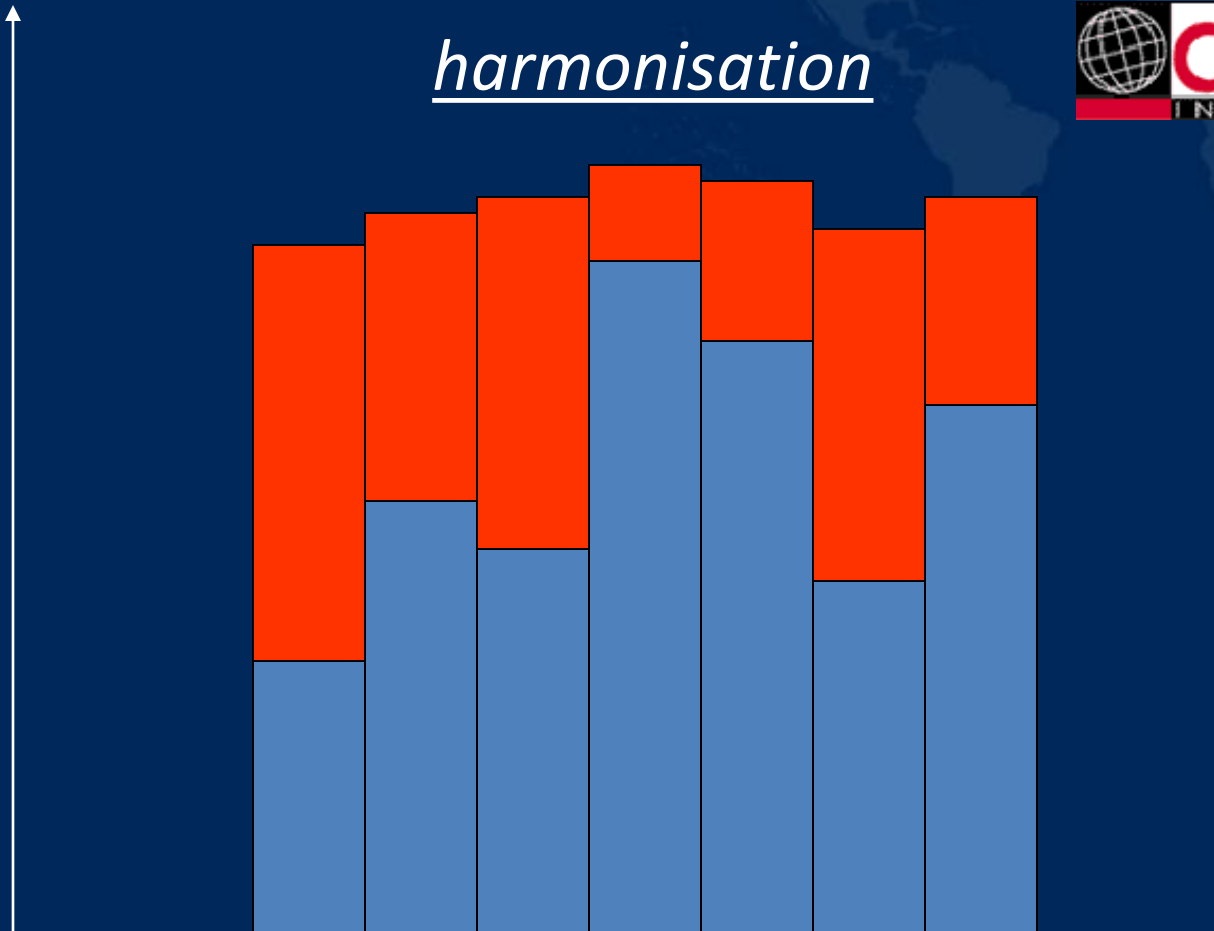




Quality level

International accreditation

harmonisation



countries

Legal requirements...

Let's discuss



jguillen@aaalac.org