IACUC POLICY # 11
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
Policy on “Significant Changes” to Animal Use Proposals

The Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Policy) and the federal regulation in Animals Welfare (9 CRF Ch.1) require that the Institutional Animals Care and Use Committee (IACUC) shall, “review and approve, require modifications in (to secure approval), or withhold approval of proposed significant changes regarding the use of animals in ongoing activities…”

Significant Changes include:
• Changes in the objectives of the study;
• Changes or additions to the species of animal to be used;
• Changes in the approximate number of animals used;
• Proposals to switch from nonsurvival to survival surgery;
• Changes in the degree of invasiveness of a procedure;
• Changes in the procedure which may change the level of potential discomfort of the animal;
• Change in the Principle Investigator (PI) and/or Co-PI;
• Changes in anesthetic agent(s), analgesics, and/or methods of euthanasia.

Request to make significant changes to an approved Animals Use Proposal may be made by requesting approval of an Amendment to the protocol. Investigators may submit request in letter form to the committee or may submit amended pages of the Animals Use Proposal form.

Requests for amendments must contain:
1. Title and assigned number of the approved Animals Use Proposal;
2. Description of the proposed amendment including complete description of and change invasive procedures, surgery, anesthetic or analgesic drugs, or euthanasia;
3. Justification for the proposed change(s).

Copies of proposed amendments will be made available to IACUC members in the same manner as new Animal Use Proposals and will be reviewed at the IACUC meeting.