IACUC Semiannual Inspection – Lab Self-Assessment Checklist

This checklist is a self-evaluation tool to help your laboratory plan for an IACUC inspection and to remain inspection-ready year round.

Lab Personnel General Knowledge

Know where to find the current IACUC approved protocol(s) they are approved to work on.
Understand UC Research How 2 website and/or where to find current IACUC policies/guidance.
Aware of ACUP training requirements and enrolled in the Occupational Health and Safety Program.
Aware of who to contact for reporting animal health problems and adverse events.
Know how to report compliance concerns.

Housing and Procedure Satellite Areas

Animals are transported in accordance with ACUP Policy.
Rooms or benches are organized, clean, and free of clutter. ▲
Controlled substances securely stored in a double-locked location. Logs are current and complete.
Benchtops taped with delineating boundaries for animal use. "Animal Procedure" sign posted above
area.
No expired materials in animal use areas and/or expired materials are labelled "expired" or "not for use in animals". Items without an expiration date are recommended to be labeled as "no expiry". ▲
Empty cages returned to designated LAMS vivarium cage drop off areas within 24 hours.
Procedure: cages of animals not held longer than ≥ 24 hours.
Housing: daily animal health checks are performed and documented.

Surgery and Anesthesia

Staff trained in observing post-op animals for ≥ 3 days and surgical documentation requirements. ▲
Analgesics given as described in the protocol. ▲
Charcoal waste anesthetic gas (WAG) canisters are secured upright and monitored (weighed/dated) before each use. ▲
Anesthetic vaporizers are calibrated per recommended manufacturer date (typically annual). ▲
Aseptic technique being used for survival surgery.
No more than 5 animals per surgical pack for serial surgeries and a hot bead sterilizer between animals.
Instruments effectively sterilized. Surgical packs prepared in advance have expiration dates.
Suture and/or wound clip removal at 10-14 days or as described in the approved protocol.

Health and Safety

Staff is knowledgeable how to report injury/illness. ▲
Applicable hazard signs are posted on doors and/or equipment.
Staff know where the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and IACUC chemical hazard advisories are located.
Sharps containers are available and not overfilled. ▲
Staff is wearing appropriate PPE.
Gas cylinders are properly secured with belts or chains or in approved cylinder carts.
Staff knowledgeable of emergency evacuation procedures/plans.
No food or drink in lab. No food wrappers or containers in lab waste cans.