



The University of Georgia®

Office of the Vice President for Research

**UGA IACUC Policy for
Reporting of Unanticipated Research Outcomes**
***Approved by the UGA IACUC
Effective August 16, 2012
Revised July 21, 2016***

The University of Georgia is committed to the humane care of the animals used in its research and instructional activities. The UGA IACUC recognizes that in the course of scientific inquiry there is the potential for unexpected outcomes that may affect animal well-being. Federal laws, regulations, and policies require continued institutional oversight of animal use activities after IACUC approval. Researchers participate centrally in this oversight by reporting any unanticipated research outcomes to the IACUC.

Policy:

It is the responsibility of the Principle Investigator to promptly report any unanticipated experimental outcomes that negatively affect animal well-being to the Laboratory Animal Veterinarian or IACUC.

Examples of unanticipated outcomes which must be reported include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The phenotype of a genetically modified or mutant animal is discovered to include an unexpected condition that negatively affects animal well-being.
- Physical restraint of an animal results in lesions, illness, or behavioral changes.
- A surgical procedure causes unexpected complications.
- An unexpected or higher than expected incidence of complications, illness, or morbidity that negatively affects animal well-being, due to the experiment (e.g. infection, treatment) or other unanticipated events (e.g. power loss).

Procedure:

The Principal Investigator or their designee must contact the Laboratory Animal Veterinarian or IACUC as soon as an unanticipated adverse outcome is identified or suspected. The Veterinarian and IACUC will work with the researcher to assess the situation, and develop a plan for improving the well-being of the affected animals and revising the AUP (e.g. anesthesia, procedural method, monitoring interval, humane endpoints) as needed to ensure the well-being of the animals in ongoing and future studies.

References

- Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (*Guide*), NRC, 2010.
- Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching (*FASS Guide*), FASS, 2010.
- Animal Welfare Regulations, 9 CFR, chapter I, subchapter A.