

## IX. Reporting Deficiencies in Animal Care or Treatment

IX.1. Reporting concerns, deficiencies, or observations made regarding the adequacy or appropriateness of the facilities, program, policies, or procedures contributes to the oversight, development, and improvement of the program for animal care and use, and contributes to the resolution of the concern or deficiency.

IX.2. Deficiencies in animal care, use, recordkeeping, or treatment, and adverse events in animal care or use must be reported, and can be reported to Comparative Medicine veterinarians (745-4361, 974-9260, 396-0612), or administrative staff (974-9842, 974-9876), or to the IACUC c/o Research Integrity & Compliance (974-0954, 974-7104, 974-7106), or directly to the IACUC Chairperson (974-1547), or IACUC Vice Chairperson (745-3028), or to the Institutional Official of the Animal Care and Use Program, (974-5570).

IX.3. This reporting-feedback mechanism of observations made regarding the practices of animal care and use within these laboratories, contributes an important oversight, and assists in the continuous development of the animal program.

IX.4. Such reports, suggestions, complaints, or compliments are made with protection of the reporting individual from any discrimination or reprisal.

IX.5. Reports of concerns regarding animal welfare are immediately forwarded to Comparative Medicine for assurance by the veterinarians that a concern for animal welfare is not ongoing. The Director or Associate Director can interrupt any activity that jeopardizes the welfare of an animal.

IX.6. All reports of alleged animal welfare concern, deficiency, or noncompliance are forwarded to the IACUC c/o Research Integrity & Compliance. The subject Principal Investigator is informed of the allegation in writing by the IACUC Chairperson and may be asked to respond in writing and/or invited to meet with the IACUC to respond to questions regarding the alleged deficiency.

IX.7. The IACUC deliberates regarding the reported alleged deficiency at its next regularly scheduled monthly meeting, or the IACUC Chairperson can call an emergency quorum to discuss the issue in advance of a regular meeting if deemed necessary. The IACUC Chairperson can choose to invite involved personnel to the meeting to whom questions can be directed. The IACUC reports the findings of its deliberations to the PI and the Institutional Official.

IX.8. Any serious or continuing non-compliance with *PHS Policy*, any serious deviation from the provisions of the *Guide*, and any suspension of any activity by the IACUC is communicated by Comparative Medicine via telephone to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) in a timely manner. After IACUC review, institutional resolution, and reporting to the Institutional Official, the Institutional Official submits a formal report describing the circumstances and actions taken to OLAW and other relevant agencies.