 ROSS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE	Re-use of animals Guideline Pol.009	Issued	January 2018
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1. Purpose/Principle:

There are circumstances where animals are used in more than one study and/or repeatedly in the same study.

In the US, there are no specific guidelines on re-use. However, there is an expectation that studies will be planned so as to reflect a commitment to the 3Rs but ensuring pain and distress for the individual animal is minimized.

2. Definitions:

Re-Use - It is **re-use** where an animal is used on a new study unconnected with any previous studies carried out (i.e. an animal may be used for a PK study and at a later stage used in a safety study).

Re-use may be within an AUP or involve a transfer between AUPs/ procedures.

Continued or repeated use - There are circumstances where the first experimental procedure (first 'use') is essential for the second (i.e. making a transgenic, surgical preparation in one protocol which is required for the second or sequential PK studies with unrelated compounds).

These circumstances should be written into the AUP and approved.


Other Repeated uses - Repeated measurements or cross over studies are a part of the protocol and are not covered by this guideline.

- Crossover study example- the animal receives each treatment in a random order and each animal serves as its own control.

3. Process/Procedure:

3.1. An animal already used in one or more procedures, when a different animal on which no procedure has previously been carried out could also be used, may only be reused in a new procedure provided that the following conditions are met:

- a. the actual severity of the previous procedures was 'mild' to 'moderate' (i.e. Category I to III of the IACUC Guidelines for Categories of Animal Use);
- b. it is demonstrated that the animal's general state of health and well-being has been fully restored;
- c. the further procedure is classified as 'mild' to 'moderate' (i.e. Category I to IV of the IACUC Guidelines for Categories of Animal Use) or 'non-recovery'; and

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- d. it is in accordance with veterinary advice and final disposition guidelines within the species-specific acquisition/processing SOP's.

3.2. In exceptional circumstances, by way of derogation from paragraph 3.1 section a. and after consultation with the Attending Veterinarian, the IACUC may allow reuse of an animal previously used in category IV or V procedure of the IACUC Guidelines for Categories of Animal Use, provided the animal has not been used more than once for a Category V procedure and under the conditions laid out down below for continued use of animals.

3.3. Continued use of an animal is allowable when:


- a. the experimental design/ teaching objective requires it and it is justified in the AUP; and
- b. approved by the IACUC; and
- c. determination of suitability for further use through following questions:
 - is the animal healthy?
 - have there been any adverse events?
 - Is there any obvious reason why the animal should not be used?
 - has the animal been exposed to procedures outlined in paragraph 3.2?
- d. for category IV or V studies limits on the number of uses should be defined in the AUP
- e. scientific questions (i.e. has there been a sufficient washout period, will compound given interfere with later studies) are appropriately addressed

4. Applicability

This guideline applies to all sites that utilize animals for research, teaching and testing. Applicable to all circumstances in which animals are used in more than one study.

5. References

- Eighth Edition of the **Guide** for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (NRC 2011)
- Anderson, David. (2004). Revision of Council of Europe Convention ETS 123 guidelines for the accommodation and care of animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes. Alternatives to laboratory animals : ATLA. 32 Suppl 1A. 183-5.
- National Research Council (US) Committee on Recognition and Alleviation of Distress in Laboratory Animals. Recognition and Alleviation of Distress in Laboratory Animals.

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- National Research Council (US) Committee on Recognition and Alleviation of Pain in Laboratory Animals. Recognition and Alleviation of Pain in Laboratory Animals. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US); 2009. Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK32658/>

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This Policy is subject to annual review.

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Signed

Date