Animal Policy Updates

Two new policies went into effect recently: Veterinary Verification and Consultation (VVC) and Post Approval Monitoring (PAM). The VVC policy allows certain significant changes to animal protocols to be preapproved by the IACUC and administratively verified by designated RARC veterinarians. The PAM policy describes the various methods used by RARC and the IACUCs for postapproval monitoring of animal protocols. For a summary of new policies and changes to existing ones, visit the RARC website.

Check for Expired Substances Every Month

Use the colored-dot system – an easy method of labeling substances and medical materials with an expiration date. A different colored dot represents each year, and the month of expiration is written in the center. For example, a green dot sticker with the number 5 lets you know at a glance that any bottles, tubes, bags, boxes, etc. will expire in May of 2016. Check your supplies at the end of each month!

Need help establishing the colored dot system? See our website or email pharmacy@rarc.wisc.edu

Remember: there can be NO expired substances in animal use areas. If USDA inspectors find an expired substance, a citation (and likely a fine) will result. If the ACUC finds an expired substance, it is a deficiency for your lab!

Want a reminder? We will send you an email at the end of each month reminding you (or someone in your lab) to check your substances that are about to expire. Email apas@rarc.wisc.edu to be added to the list.

Free Consultation with RARC Histo Tech & Pathologist!

What we can do for you:

- help you get the correct tissue orientation for your sections
- recover and re-embed cassettes
- produce unstained slides
- produce slides with H&E and other stains
- reduce costs and much more!

Our pathology team is staffed with a certified histology technician, two certified veterinary technicians, and two lab animal veterinarians boarded in veterinary pathology. We have over 90 years of combined pathology experience! See our website for details or email one of our professionals.
RARC Mouse Research Services
Is your lab understaffed? Do you have new staff who haven’t been trained yet? Would you like to improve the consistency between experiments? We may be able to help! The RARC Mouse Research Service is a fee-based program that uses a pool of professionals well qualified in many common rodent techniques. More information can be found on our webpage.

Help Text in Arrow
On many pages within the ARROW protocol, you will see a little blue circle with a “?” inside next to the section title. Click on the question mark to open a help document with additional detail. Some help documents provide sample text.

Finding Errors Before You Submit
To find omissions and other errors before you submit your protocol, click on “Hide/Show Errors” at the top of each page of the protocol. Errors or omissions will be listed in red on the bottom of the page.

Making the Corrections
From the list of errors at the bottom of the page, click on the section name under the “Jump to” heading and Arrow will take you to the correct page.

See the Arrow Tips and FAQ page for more help!

The Hazards Sections of Your Arrow Protocol
Guidance documents for common biological and chemical agents used in animal research on campus are now available from the Animal Research Safety group. Use these documents to help complete the Biological and Chemical Hazards sections of your animal use protocol. Questions? Contact carrie.ensrud@wisc.edu.
Wisconsin Public Records Law in Animal Research
Presentation Available Upon Request
An overview of the Wisconsin Public Records Law in Animal Research is available to PIs, research groups, and departments. RARC’s public records specialist explains the public records request process, and an RARC veterinarian provides context and insights. For more information, or to schedule this presentation, call 262-7138.