



Animal Program Policy

Title: **Veterinary Approval of Significant Changes:
Injections sites, dosages and compounds**

Date Created: 9/23/15

Date Reviewed: 9/30/2015; 09/26/2018

Purpose: OLAW has approved changes in procedures for handling significant changes to protocols in order to streamline research with animals. In the past, changes to techniques using animals were considered significant changes requiring the submission of an amendment for review by the full committee or by DMR.

Guidance now allows “administrative” approval of changes to some techniques done with animals: these changes will not require submission of an amendment. However, they must be approved by the Consulting Veterinarian and subsequently documented. In order to employ this method of approval, the IACUC must approve a written policy allowing veterinary approval of specific classes of significant changes.

This policy covers veterinary approval of changes to a specific class of procedures: injections.

With this policy, the IACUC authorizes the Consulting Veterinarian to approve changes to injection sites, doses or compounds. Investigators must contact the Consulting Veterinarian (through the Director of Animal Care is OK) to request the change. The Director of Animal Care and the Consulting Veterinarian must then verify that the change is consistent with the goals of the protocol and that the change requested is appropriate for the specific circumstances. The Consulting Veterinarian can take one of three actions:

- 1) issue an approval for the requested change
- 2) request modifications to the proposed changes
- 3) defer approval for full committee review

If approved by the Consulting Veterinarian, the change in procedure and its approval must be documented using a specific form, which will be then be attached to the protocol.