

# AUBURN UNIVERSITY

## Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

### Policy on Significant Changes to Approved Protocols

**Background:** Changes in vertebrate animal use in research and teaching are inevitable, but federal regulations and Auburn University animal care and use policy require review and approval by the IACUC of significant changes in any activity involving the use of animals. Such changes must not be implemented prior to IACUC review and approval. The Principal Investigator is responsible for informing the IACUC of any significant changes by filing a Protocol Modification Form. Protocol Modification Forms will be scheduled for review at an IACUC meeting. In some cases, the IACUC Chair or the IACUC may judge that changes are sufficiently different from the original protocol to warrant that a new protocol be submitted.

**Policy:** Significant changes include but are not limited to modifications that:

- result in increased animal distress or pain or increase in the invasiveness of the procedures.
- result in changes in veterinary care, such as anesthetic agent(s), use or withholding of analgesics, and methods of euthanasia.
- result in using a different species.
- result in an increase in animal numbers.
- result in a change in the overall aims or objectives of the study.
- result in a switch from non-survival to survival surgery.
- result in performing additional procedures not described in the approved IACUC protocol.
- result in a change in hazardous substance use.
- result in allowing other investigators to use your animals on their protocols, or using animals approved for use on one of your protocols for use on another of your IACUC-approved protocols.
- Result in a change in treatment agents/drugs or the grade of the agent/drug such as use of a non-pharmaceutical grade vs pharmaceutical grade.

REVISED: December 18, 2012

REAFFIRMED: October 4, 2021