Information Resources for Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees 1985-1999

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Rigor, my buddy for 16 years. Photo by Tim Allen.

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Foreword

Information Resources for Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees has been produced by the Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Library (NAL) in cooperation with the USDA, APHIS, Animal Care and the USDHHS, PHS, NIH, Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare in an effort to provide a comprehensive resource for IACUC's as they conduct their routine activities, train new members, develop institutional policies and guidelines, etc.

The material in this publication has been drawn from a number of reference sources including: databases such as Medline, Agricola, TOXLINE, NTIS, CAB International; World Wide Web sites; professional organizations and Federal agencies; and publications and writings of the Animal Welfare Information Center.

The staff of the Animal Welfare Information Center hope that you find this publication to be a useful addition to your laboratory animal resources and welcome any comments for future editions.

How To Use This Document
This publication is divided into 10 sections: Introduction to Animal Care and Use Committees; U.S. Government Principles, Regulations, Policies and Guidelines; Agency Directives for Federal Fund-holders; Professional Guidelines; World Wide Web Resources; Articles and Bibliographies; Primary References; Selected Software Providers; Organizations; and an Appendix.

Introduction to Animal Care and Use Committees
This article provides an overview of how the IACUC came into being under the Animal Welfare Act and its primary functions and responsibilities.

This section contains pertinent excerpts from the animal welfare regulations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), selected USDA Animal Care Policies, and pertinent excerpts from the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the Public Health Service Guide to the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. Web addresses are provided for access to the full-text of these documents.

Agency Directives for Federal Fund-holders
Institutions receiving funds or grants from Federal agencies are generally obligated to agree to abide by certain agency rules and regulations. These directives are from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Public Health Service.

Professional Guidelines
Many professional societies have published guidelines for the care and use of animals in various disciplines. This section contains information on how to obtain those guidelines and other useful information regarding the care and use of animals in research.
World Wide Web Resources
It's the year 2000, what kind of publication would we be if we didn't list websites. This section lists pertinent government web sites, clearinghouses, and selected University web pages. It is not meant to be a comprehensive listing but to get you to sites that provide pertinent resources.

Articles and Bibliographies
The primary section of this publication consists of 19 subsections broken out by various topics. Most subsections are introduced by AWIC Newsletter articles, excerpts from Federal policies, regulations, or guidelines, or information generously provided by other organizations. The reference section for each article may or may not overlap with citations in the bibliographic portion of each subsection. Immediately following the article(s) is a comprehensive bibliography containing citations that are arranged alphabetically according to the last name of the primary author. Each entry also contains descriptors and the NAL call number if the particular source is available at the National Agricultural Library (NAL). If the full-text of the article/resource is available on the WWW, the URL is provided. At the end of each subsection are listings of World Wide Web sites that will provide additional information on the topic.

Primary References
This section lists useful textbooks, formularies, conference proceedings, laws, etc. that should be useful references for members of the IACUC.

Selected Software Providers
A short listing of companies providing software to assist in the management of protocols, animal care programs, laboratory research, or to help with veterinary care.

Organizations
There are many organizations that produce extremely useful materials for their members and other interested parties. In this section, organized by world regions, you will find information on how to contact these organizations via a variety of electronic means and that old standby, the postal service. You will also find World Wide Web addresses for those organizations that have posted homepages on the Web. However, readers are cautioned that because the WWW is a very dynamic media, these addresses may change. You will also find information on the type of organization, the resources or services offered, requestor priority, and fees (if any).

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The animal research protocol form that is used by research institutions of the U.S. Department of Defense.

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Policies and Links

The Animal Welfare Information Center http://awic.nal.usda.gov/contact-us