

 جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة United Arab Emirates University 	Research and Sponsored Projects Policies Manual	Policy Number	RA-13
		Effective Date	02-Mar-2014
	Subject Protection of Animals in Research	Most Recent Review Date	01-Dec-2013
	Responsible Office: DVC Research & Grad. Studies	Due Date for Next Review	01-Sep-2016
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13. Protection of Animals in Research

Overview

Provides information related to UAEU requirements and resources for research involving animals.

Scope

Applies to all activities that involve research with animals for which at least one of the following criteria is met:

1. The research is conducted by or under the direction of the faculty, staff, or students of the UAEU.
2. The research is conducted by an external organization with sponsorship from the UAEU or with participation of its faculty, staff, or students, or using any property or facility of the University.

Objective

The University is committed to the respect of and regard for the welfare of animals used within research projects and programs. This policy gives effect to that commitment.

Policy

1. All projects that fall within the above mentioned scope and involve animals and animal-derived material including tissues and organs, will need approval from the Animal Research Ethics Committee (A-REC).
2. The A-REC will develop its own regulations and detailed procedures according to international standards for animal welfare and UAE law.
3. Procedures must be designed with due regard to UAEU Policies and applicable laws, and must be implemented in the Animal House of the UAEU.

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Procedures of Policy No. (13) - Protection of Animals in Research

Standard Protocol for Checking Ethical Considerations

1. Principal Investigators will routinely check their projects to ensure they are meeting ethical requirements and animal welfare. Checklists will serve as an aide-memoire prior to seeking approval from the Animal Research Ethics Committee (A-REC), as part of standard procedure aimed at ensuring compliance with animal research governance requirements. This can be facilitated by standardizing database “fields” that contain information about any research project.
2. The following checklist is to be included in the application forms for approval from the responsible A-REC. It is intended to act as a comprehensive stimulus to ethical considerations throughout a project. Such a checklist prompts the making of clear statements of intent, mechanisms of approach and consideration of potential hazards arising from research in a manner that can be understood by the public and research professionals alike. While some of the items appear to be beyond the scope of ethics alone, any matter that may affect the success of research is of ethical interest if it may expose participants to exploitation or risk.
 - a) Project Title: This offers a quick reference for any interested party and indicates the broad sphere of interest.
 - b) Expected Duration: This indicates the commitment required of animal subjects, and time to be given by researchers.
 - c) Identity of Field Researchers and Organizational Base: This contains names, positions, qualifications and functions of those involved in the proposed research, of all holders of responsible positions, and of all persons who might be in direct contact with animals or animal-derived materials according to the UAE law. It offers an overview of competence, together with a chain of responsibility and accountability.
 - d) Purpose of Study: This cites aims and objectives that may indicate hypothesis testing, policy evaluation, and any potential “value” added to the subject group and/or society in general.
 - e) Alternate methodologies that address the 3-R philosophy (Replacement, Reduction, Refinement) for the project. In the case of regulatory protocol, the specific act and regulation, including most recent revision date will be stated.
 - f) The general purpose of animal use will be specified. This will include the species and number of animals, diagnostic procedures, disposal of animal carcasses and animal-derived materials.
 - g) Source(s) of Funding: This includes names the organization(s), individual(s) or group(s) providing the funding for the study.
 - h) Scientific Background: This offers a rationale for conducting the study.
 - i) Design of the Study: This contains a brief description of what will be done. Information about status of animals, physical restraint, food and/or water deprivation, variations in the environment, the use of immobilizing agents or muscle

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relaxants without anesthesia and LD testing. Any distress or pain to the animal will be stated clearly in addition to alleviation methods. All procedural matters will be clarified here, including data analysis methods and procedures; time commitments; and data-collection settings.

- j) Invasiveness in animal experiments will be categorized according to the international classification. Safety measures for containment and special procedures for disposal of animal waste and carcasses will be clarified.
- k) Data Protection: This will illustrate by what means the project will comply with the requirements of current data protection legislation, and how this compliance will be disclosed to participating subjects and those monitoring the research procedure. It will include information on proposed data storage arrangements, degrees of security, etc., and whether any material facts have been withheld (and when, or if, such facts will be disclosed).
- l) Confidentiality and Anonymity: This will list the steps taken to safeguard the confidentiality of records and will disclose the circumstances under which any potential identifying information about the subject must be revealed.
- m) Monitoring of the Research: This will outline the organizational procedures for monitoring the project.
- n) Dissemination of Findings: This will address the anticipated use of the data, forms of publication, dissemination of findings, etc.