



Inspection Report

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS
OFFICE OF RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION
415 SOUTH STREET, MS116

WALTHAM, MA 02454

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BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: Mar-19-2008

2.31 (e) (3)

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC).

2.31 (e) (3) - "A proposal to conduct an activity involving animals, or to make a significant change in an ongoing activity involving animals, must contain the following: (3) A complete description of the proposed use of the animals."

1. Review of Protocol #0708-13:

- a. The protocol states that Bacitracin ointment will be applied to the surgical site if there are signs of infection but there is no description of the clinical signs that would indicate the presence of infection at the surgical site.
- b. The frequency of administration of the antibiotic penicillin post-operatively in the case of infection of the surgical site is not specified.
- c. The protocol states that the substance Muscimol obtained from Sigma may be infused prior to training and no lasting effects from the infusion of Muscimol are expected in the animals. There is no information provided in the protocol about this compound or the expected effects of the Muscimol infusion during training on the animals.

A proposal for animal use must contain a complete description of the proposed animal use. The IACUC needs to address the items identified for this protocol. Correct by 4/21/08.

2.31 (d) (1) (ix)

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC).

2.31 (d) (1) (ix) - "The IACUC shall determine that the proposed activities or significant changes in ongoing activities meet the following requirements: (ix) Activities that involve surgery include appropriate provision for pre-operative and post-operative care of the animals in accordance with established veterinary medical and nursing practices..... Major operative procedures on non-rodents will be conducted only in facilities intended for that purpose which shall be operated and maintained under aseptic conditions."

- 1. Protocol #0708-13 includes a major operative procedures on Ferrets. The small sized room used to perform the surgery has an overall cluttered appearance. General surgical supplies are in open cardboard boxes on the floor,

Prepared By:

PAULA S GLADUE, V M D USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER Inspector 1054

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assorted pieces of equipment are located on open shelves, a fabric covered chair is adjacent to the surgery table, and there is a large sink a few feet from the surgery table. The presence of these items hinders disinfection practices and the maintenance of aseptic conditions in the surgery space.

The observations pertaining to the surgery room are not compatible with the definition of a dedicated surgical space. The IACUC needs to address this issue as concerns the use of the room to perform the surgical procedures described in this protocol. Correct by 4/21/08.

2.32 (a)

PERSONNEL QUALIFICATIONS.

2.32 (a) - "It shall be the responsibility of the research facility to ensure that all scientists, research technicians, animal technicians, and other personnel involved in animal care, treatment, and use are qualified to perform their duties."

1. The Non-compliant items identified on this inspection report under Sections 2.33 (b) (5) pertaining to Protocol #0708-13 indicate laboratory personnel's lack of familiarity with both the details of the approved protocol and the currently established veterinary medical and nursing procedures. This lack of familiarity has the potential to negatively affect the welfare of animals.

All personnel involved in animal care, treatment, and use must be adequately trained and qualified to perform the duties described in the protocol. Inadequate training in any aspect of animal care and use can result in harm to the animals. The research facility needs to address this issue. Correct immediately.

2.33 (b) (2)

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE.

2.33 (b) (2) - "Each research facility shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include:
(2) The use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries."

1. There was a young male Ferret which was noted by the APHIS inspector to have a slightly enlarged and cloudy left eye. According to the AV, the Ferret had developed an ulcer on the left cornea, a topical antibiotic ophthalmic ointment had been prescribed; the ulcer had healed with opaque scar tissue that resulted in the cloudiness observed in the eye. There was no written health record available for review that documented that the eye condition had been diagnosed or treated by laboratory personnel as directed by the AV.

It is generally accepted veterinary medical practice that a health record system is in place that includes dates and details of any problems, medications, and treatments administered in order to document the delivery of adequate health care to an animal by the research facility. Correct from this date forward.

2. The following items were noted in Ferret surgery room:

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- a. Plastic squirt bottle containing a brown liquid that did not have any label identifying the contents or the exp date.
- b. Plastic squirt bottle labeled "70% Ethanol". There was no exp date on the label in order to determine whether the contents were in current dating.

All secondary containers that are filled from a stock bottle should have a label that includes the name and exp date of the contents in the secondary container in order to ensure the material is used properly and is not outdated. The use of outdated medications and/or medical supplies may not be safe or efficacious and is not considered an acceptable standard of veterinary practice. Correct from this date forward.

2.33 (b) (5) DIRECT NCI ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE.

2.33 (b) (5) - "Each research facility shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include:
(5) Adequate pre-procedural and post-procedural care in accordance with current established veterinary medical and nursing procedures."

THIS IS THE DIRECT NON-COMPLIANT ITEM UNDER THIS SECTION OF THE REGULATIONS

1. The medical record of Ferret #2138775 that had undergone a surgical procedure under Protocol #0708-13 on 3/6/08 was reviewed. The following items were identified:
 - a. The protocol states that the analgesic Buprenorphine will be administered at the end of surgery and every 12 hours for an additional 1-2 days following surgery. According to the medical record, the Ferret did not receive any doses of Buprenorphine after surgery as described in the protocol.
 - b. The protocol states that Ketamine 30 - 40 mg/kg, Xylazine 3 - 4 mg/kg, and Atropine 0.04 mg/kg will be injected to induce anesthesia. According to the medical record, the dose of the 3 drugs administered to the Ferret was 0.34 ml. It can not be determined from the information provided in the medical record that the Ferret received the appropriate dose of each drug according to its body weight.
 - c. The protocol states that several physiologic parameters will be monitored every 15 - 20 minutes during the surgical procedure. According to the medical record, the measurements were taken every 30 minutes from 11 AM to 2:30 PM, and then again at 3:30 PM, 4:30 PM, and 5 PM.
 - d. The protocol states that the animals will be monitored by personnel daily for 6 days following surgery. Post-operative monitoring was documented in the medical record for only 3 days on 3/7/08, 3/8/08, and 3/10/08.
 - e. The protocol states that the weight will be recorded on each of the 6 days post-operatively but there was no documentation that the Ferret was weighed as described in the protocol.

Research animals should receive the prescribed pre and post procedural care as specified in the IACUC approved

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proposal for animal use. Research facilities are required to provide adequate pre and post-procedural care to maintain the health of the animals and ensure that discomfort and pain to the animals will be limited. Correct from this date forward.

3.131 (c)

SANITATION.

3.131 (c) - "Housekeeping. Premises (buildings and grounds) shall be kept clean.....to facilitate the prescribed husbandry practices set forth in this subpart. Accumulations of trash shall be placed in designated areas and cleared as necessary to protect the health of the animals."

1. The following Housekeeping items were identified in 119-123 at the time of the inspection and need to be cleaned in order to keep the facilities clean as per this Section of the Regulations. Correct 1a and 1b by 3/27/08.

- a. A mortar and pestle used to crush dry kibble to feed one of the Ferrets was noted to be dirty.
- b. There were spilled dry kibble inside one of the drawers in the storage unit.

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