



Fall 2008 IACUC Inspections begin October 1st

The IACUC begins semiannual inspections of all animal facilities on October 1. Inspections will be conducted Monday-Thursday 9am-12noon & 1:30pm-4:30pm, and Friday 9am-12noon. Inspections will not be done on Friday afternoons or during IACUC meeting days (1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month). The PI must make themselves and/or a senior lab member available.

The following items are the ones that have come up repeatedly as deficiencies during inspections of labs. Please be especially mindful of these:

- **Approved protocols available in all laboratories** – either have a paper copy in a binder or make protocols accessible on a lab computer to all lab staff.
- Appropriate drug storage, control, and expiration date – **this includes all substances used with animals or to clean animal areas**
- For housing areas, **maintenance of SOPs and logs recording animal care**, room cleaning, and environmental conditions
- **Routine calibration of anesthesia machines** and record of weighing the canister on a regular basis

For a detailed list of what the IACUC will be looking for on inspections, please see: <http://www.iacuc.ufl.edu/inspections.htm>

AALAS Training Accounts

The IACUC has recently renewed our contract with the AALAS Learning Library (ALL). In mid- September, all accounts for UF staff had to be re-activated for people to have access to the courses. We re-activated most accounts. However, some people are finding that they can log into the ALL, but cannot go into any courses. This is because your account is not currently active. If you have this problem, please contact Joan Wysocki at 392-9907 or jwysock@ufl.edu and she'll get you up and running.

Important Reminder Regarding use of CO₂ for Euthanasia

Exposure to CO₂, followed by a physical method such as cervical dislocation, decapitation, or opening of the chest cavity, is a common technique for euthanizing rodents and other small laboratory animals. An airtight chamber must be used when administering CO₂.

PHS Policy states the following: "Chambers must not be overcrowded. In this regard, it is important to also consider that mixing unfamiliar or incompatible animals in the same container may be distressful".

There have been some recent instances of lab personnel combining several cages of animals into one container when transporting the animals to the CO₂ tank. Overcrowding or mixing unfamiliar/incompatible animals in the same container may constitute a non-compliance violation for your lab.