



Animal Program Policy

Title: Principal Investigators on Animal Protocols
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The purpose of this policy is to define who can be the principal investigator (PI) on an IACUC protocol. In most cases, the PI will be a faculty member, and the personnel on the protocol will report directly to the PI. However, external users have different reporting structures and individuals at Forsyth who are not faculty may be authorized to submit protocols.

PI's must have the authority and responsibility for leading and directing the project, intellectually and logistically. The PI must have direct supervisory authority over all personnel on the protocol. If these conditions cannot be met, a co-PI should be named who has the requisite experience and authority. If a co-PI is named on a protocol, the PI will receive correspondence and will delegate supervisory responsibility to the co-PI as needed.

If an approved protocol's PI assignment must change to a different individual, an amendment application must be submitted to the IACUC for review and approved prior to the PI change. This is considered a substantive amendment, not a personnel amendment. The amendment application must include the new individual's credentials, training, and a justification for the change.

Protocols must have a PI at all times. If a PI leaves Forsyth or an external user's company, the project must have adequate personnel and funding to continue. If continuation is desired, the protocol will be suspended until a new PI is identified and the change is approved by the IACUC. Mice on the protocol will be transferred to the holding protocol, and work with the animals will be suspended until the new PI has been approved. Holding protocol expenses will be charged to the current funding source associated with the protocol at time of transfer. This suspension will not be considered to be the result of non-compliance.