



Animal Program Policy

Title: **Veterinary Verification of Significant Changes:
Injections sites, dosages and compounds**

Date Created: 09/23/2015

Date Reviewed: 07/27/2022

Purpose: OLAW has approved changes in procedures for handling significant changes to protocols in order to streamline research with animals. In the past, changes to techniques using animals were considered significant changes requiring the submission of an amendment for review by the full committee or by DMR.

Guidance now allows “administrative” approval of changes to some techniques done with animals: these changes will not require submission of an amendment. However, they must be approved by the Consulting Veterinarian and subsequently documented. In order to employ this method of approval, the IACUC must approve a written policy allowing veterinary verification of specific classes of significant changes.

This policy covers veterinary verification and consultation (“VVC”) of changes to a specific class of procedures: injections.

With this policy, the IACUC authorizes the Consulting Veterinarian to verify that changes to injection sites, doses or compounds are allowed. Investigators must contact the Consulting Veterinarian (through the Director of Animal Care is OK, or, contact IACUC@forsyth.org) to request the change. The Director of Animal Care and the Consulting Veterinarian must then verify that the change is consistent with the goals of the protocol and that the change requested is appropriate for the specific circumstances. The Consulting Veterinarian can take one of three actions:

- 1) verify that the requested change is consistent with this policy
- 2) request modifications to the proposed changes
- 3) defer approval for full committee review

If verified by the Consulting Veterinarian, the change in procedure and its verification must be documented using a specific form, which will then be attached to the protocol.