

University of Nebraska Lincoln

Policy for Project or Herd Veterinarian Other than UNL IACP Veterinarian

Appropriate medical care must be provided for all animals involved in research, teaching, and training. The IACP Attending Veterinarian is funded centrally to be available to provide such care. However, there are circumstances where a veterinarian other than the IACP veterinarian can be utilized. In order to use non-IACP veterinary services and still meet UNL's institutional obligation regarding animal care, the IACUC has the discretion to approve the use of a non-IACP veterinarian as the medical care provider of record for a project if **all** of the following conditions are met:

1. The name and contact information of the individual who will serve as the project veterinarian is provided on the submitted IACUC protocol.
2. The veterinarian has a current, active license to practice veterinary medicine in the US, which is verified by IACP program staff prior to IACUC protocol approval.
3. A completed TDF for the non-IACP veterinarian is provided at protocol submission for IACUC review.
4. A short rationale stating why the non-IACP veterinarian is preferred for the conduct of the project is provided with the IACUC protocol for IACUC review.
5. A written program of veterinary care is provided with the IACUC protocol, describing how the veterinarian or his/her designee (responsible party specified in the IACUC approved protocol, e.g., facility manager) will:
 - a. observe the animals daily during the acclimation and experimental periods (if applicable),
 - b. be available for regular examination and treatment of spontaneous disease/injury and protocol related conditions,
 - c. have appropriate diagnostic services, facilities, and methods of treatment available for provision of care.
6. IACP Animal Health Records are used and are posted on the door, hall, or other pre-specified location, or monthly electronic submission of records from out-state facilities are available for routine inspection by IACP staff at any time.
7. Health and treatment records are sent once a month to the IACP office for the purposes of ensuring animal health communication and regulatory compliance.
8. The IACP is not responsible for any charges incurred when a non-IACP veterinarian is used. Therefore, the financially responsible party, and departmental approval concurrence, must be provided with the IACUC protocol.
9. Federal animal welfare agencies view service as Project Veterinarian by a) the PI or b) a veterinarian employee of the project sponsor, as a Conflict of Interest. Therefore, only in very unusual situations will such persons be considered for approval by the IACUC to serve as the Project Veterinarian, and usually will result in concomitant, *additional* project animal care monitoring by IACP staff.