STANDARDS RELATING TO THE CARE
AND MANAGEMENT ETC.
OF EXPERIMENTAL ANIMALS

Experimental Animal Regulation (IEXAS)

ii

STANDARDS RELATING TO THE CARE
AND MANAGEMENT ETC.
OF EXPERIMENTAL ANIMALS

(Notification No.6, March 27, 1980 of the Prime Minister's Office)

I. Genera Principles
Persons in charge, etc. should understand the physiology, ecology and habits etc of experimental animals and should care for them with affection, and ensure that they be used for scientific purposes; persons in charge, etc. should also care for experimental animals responsibly and prevent them from doing harm to human life, body or property, and polluting or damaging the living environment.

II. Definitions
In these standards, the meanings of the terms listed below shall conform to the following definitions:

○ (1) "Experimental animal" means a mammal or bird reared or kept at a facility (including an animal being transported to a facility) for use in experiments, etc.
○ (2) "Experiment, etc." means use of an animal for educational purpose, experimental research or manufacture of biotics or other scientific applications.
○ (3) "Facility" means a facility where experimental animals are reared, cared for or used in experiments.
○ (4) "Persons in charge, etc." means the person in charge, person in charge of experimental animals, experimenters and caretakers.
○ (5) "The person in charge" means the person in charge of experimental animals and the facility.
○ (6) "Person in charge of experimental animals" means a person who assists the person in charge and who is responsible for the experimental animals.
○ (7) "Experimenter" means a person who conducts experiments.
○ (8) "Caretaker" means a person employed in the care or custody of experimental animals under the person in charge of experimental animals or the experimenter.

III. Considerations when Bringing in Experimental Animals

1. The person in charge and the person in charge of experimental animals should bring in experimental animals on the basis of the operational program of the facility decided after taking into account its location and the condition of its equipment, and care and management capacity as well as plans for experiments, etc. drawn up by the experimenter, and other factors.

2. Persons transporting experimental animals should ensure the health and safety of, and prevent accidents due to, experimental animals, bearing in mind the following matters:

■ (1) In order to minimise fatigue and discomfort of the experimental animals, a means of transportation involving the shortest possible time should be selected.
■ (2) During transportation, experimental animals should be supplied with food and water as necessary at appropriate intervals.
■ (3) Experimental animals should be transported by a means that separates the experimental animals appropriately, taking into account the physiology, ecology, and habits, etc. of the experimental animals; and vehicles and containers, etc. used in transportation should be of a size and construction, etc. necessary to assure the safety and health of, and prevent the escape of experimental animals.
■ (4) Measures necessary to prevent pollution of the environment by microorganisms and feces, urine, etc. from experimental animals should be taken.
3. The person in charge of experimental animals should, on bringing experimental animals into the facility, conduct appropriate quarantine measures as required, and should ensure that there is no damage to the health of experimenters, caretakers or other experimental animals.

IV. Maintenance of the Health and safety of Experimental Animals
   1. The person in charge should appoint a person with knowledge and experience concerning experimental animals as the person in charge of experimental animals.
   2. The person in charge should establish appropriate facilities for the care and management of the experimental animals in accordance with the physiology, ecology, and habits, etc. of the experimental animals.
   3. The person in charge of experimental animals, experimenters and caretakers should maintain the health and safety of experimental animals, bearing in mind the following matters:
      - (1) Food and water should be supplied in a proper manner in accordance with the physiology, ecology, and habits, etc. of the experimental animals insofar as it does not interfere with the purpose of the experiments, etc.
      - (2) Prevention of disease in experimental animals other than disease relating to the purpose of the experiment, and other necessary health control measures should be taken.

V. Matters to Be Considered in the Performance of Experiments, etc. of, and Measures to Be Taken after Experiments, etc.
   1. The experimenter should use the experimental animal in a proper manner within the scope necessary to achieve the purposes of the experiments, etc.
   2. The person in charge of experimental animals or the experimenter should conduct the experiments, etc. and dispose of the experimental animals after the experiments, bearing in mind the following matters:
      - (1) In conducting the experiments, etc. pain to experimental animals should be minimized as much as possible by giving the experimental animal anesthetics, etc. insofar as this is not detrimental to the purpose of the experiment, etc.; and appropriate measures should be taken to ensure that the experimental animal is kept warm.
      - (2) When disposing of animals for which the experiments have been concluded or discontinued, disposal should be carried out immediately with the minimum possible pain by more than the lethal dose of anesthetic, dislocation of the cervical vertebra or other such means.
      - (3) Appropriate measures should be taken to dispose of the carcasses of experimental animals so as not to damage human health or the living environment.

VI. Prevention of Damage
   1. The person in charge, etc. should take whatever measures are necessary to ensure that persons unconnected with the care and management of the experimental animals or with the experiments, etc. do not come in contact with the experimental animals.
   2. The person in charge of experimental animals, the experimenters and caretakers should provide each other with the information necessary to prevent damage by experimental animals as specified hereinafter.
      - (1) The person in charge of experimental animals should provide the experimenters with information concerning the handling of experimental animals, and should provide the caretakers with the guidance necessary concerning the care and management of experimental animals.
      - (2) Experimenters should provide the person in charge of experimental animals with information concerning the experimental animals being used in experiments, etc., and should provide caretakers with the guidance necessary concerning the care and management of experimental animals.
      - (3) Caretakers should report the state of the experimental animals to the person in charge of experimental animals and the experimenters.
   3. The person in charge should take the steps necessary to maintain the health of persons in charge of experimental animals and caretakers in order to prevent them from contracting diseases from experimental animals.
   4. The in charge, etc. should take such measures as are necessary to ensure that experimental animals do not escape from the place where they are kept.
   5. The person in charge should prevent accidents by taking measures in case an experimental animal escapes.
   6. The person in charge should specify emergency measures to be taken in case of earthquake fire or other emergencies, and should immediately endeavour to protect, and prevent accidents due to,
experimental animals when an emergency occurs.

VII. Conservation of the Living Environment
The persons in charge, etc. should conserve the living environment by appropriate disposal of the feces and urine, etc. of the experimental animals; by keeping the facility clean at all times to prevent pollution of the environment by microorganisms, etc. and obnoxious odors; and by taking steps to prevent noise by equipping the facilities to that purpose.

VIII. Measures to Be Taken by Breeders of Experimental Animals
Persons breeding mammals, and birds for the purposes of experiments, etc. should care for the animals responsibly with an understanding of the physiology, ecology, and habits, etc. of the animals, and with affection. Bearing in mind the following matters:
- (1) Said persons should establish facilities appropriate to the physiology, ecology, and habits, etc. of the animals; should provide food and water as appropriate; and should take such measures as are necessary to prevent the animals from contracting diseases.
- (2) To conserve the living environment, said persons should prevent pollution of or damage to the environment by disposing of the feces and urine, etc. of the animals; should maintain at all times the cleanliness of the places where the animals are bred; and should take such steps as are necessary to maintain the health of persons employed in the breeding of animals by preventing persons so employed from contracting diseases from the animals.

IX. Supplementary Provisions
The persons in charge, etc. should adhere to the spirit of these standards even when using animals other than mammals and birds in experiments, etc.

X. Exemptions
- 1. These standards shall not apply to persons in charge, etc. of experimental animals kept for the purposes of education or experimental research in livestock husbandry or for the purpose of livestock breeding.
- 2. These standards shall not apply to persons in charge, etc. of experimental animals for the purpose of observing their ecology. However, the provisions of the Standards Relating to the Care and Management of Animals for Exhibition, etc. (Notification No. 7 1976 of the Prime Minister's Office) III (except 1), IV (except 1-3 and 4) VI and VII-2 shall apply mutatis mutandis for care and management of said experimental animals.

Return to IEXAS overview.

www-admin 3wmed-admin@hayato.med.osaka-u.ac.jp