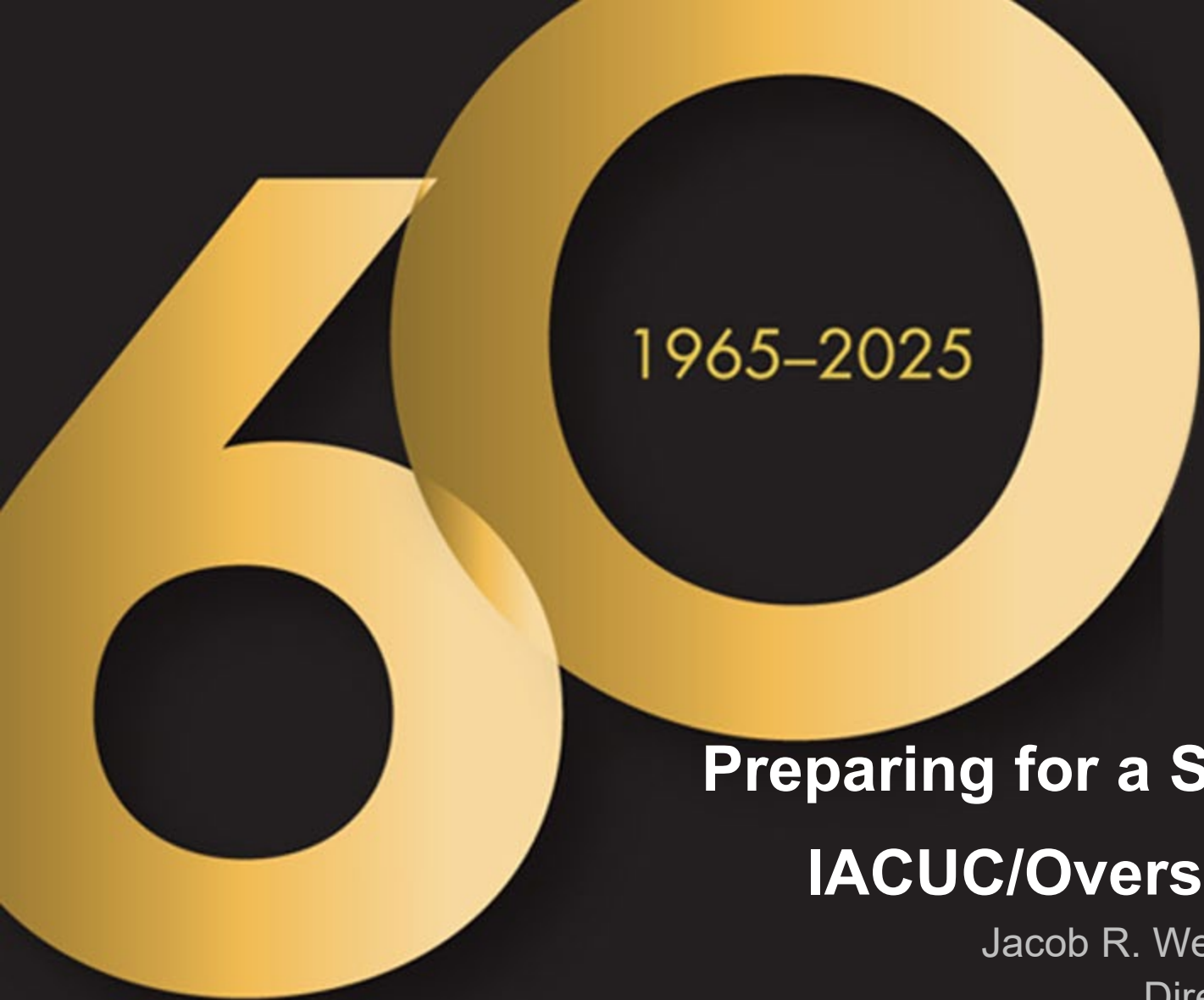




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Preparing for a Site Visit—For IACUC/Oversight Body

Jacob R. Werner, VMD

Director--USA



Celebrating sixty years!

Outline

AAALAC Overview

Value of AAALAC Accreditation

Role of the IACUC/Oversight Board (OB)

Accreditation Process



Because we care

Consideration. Communication. Compassion.

Thank you for all you do every day to create a "Culture of Care"—an environment that supports animal and human well-being in science.

Participation in AAALAC International accreditation champions a Culture of Care—it encourages programs to continuously improve and evolve, fostering excellence in animal welfare and research. Learn more at aaalac.org

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Assessment. Accreditation. Education.



Mission:

- AAALAC International improves the welfare of animals in science and education through the accreditation of organizations meeting high standards of humane and responsible animal care and use

Vision

- A world where excellence in animal welfare and science converge.



The Accreditation Program

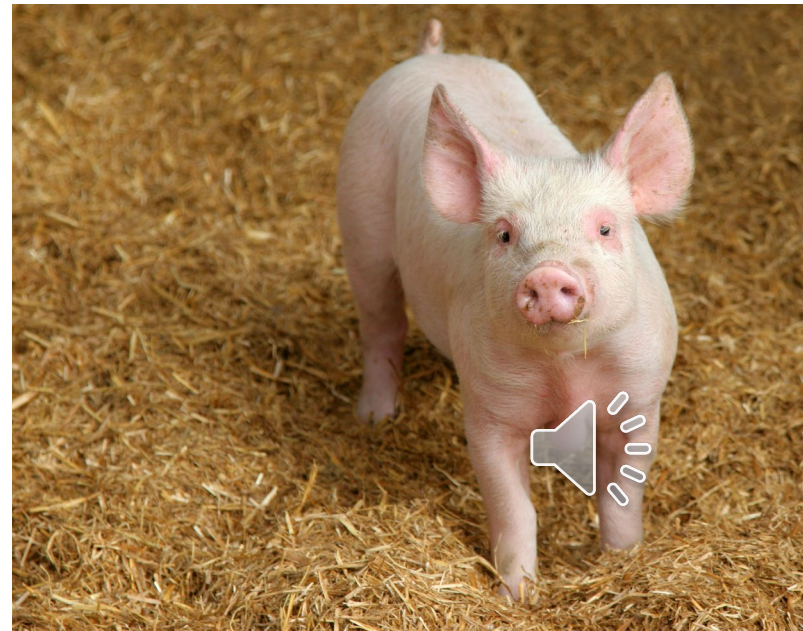
- ✓ completely confidential
- ✓ performance-based
- ✓ a peer-review process



Who does AAALAC Accredited?

Programs using any animal
species in science and
education

Includes traditional
laboratory animals,
farm animals, wildlife,
and aquatic animals



Value of Accreditation

“Attainment of accreditation demonstrates that an institution's animal care and use program maintains a standard of excellence beyond the minimums required by law.

Accreditation also demonstrates an institution's accountability and its efforts to promote sound ethical practices.”



Accreditation Demonstrates...

Commitment to animal care and welfare

Quality

Scientific validity

Accountability



Key Program Components

Administration

Occupational
Health and
Safety

Veterinary Care

IACUC/Oversight
Body

Physical
Plant/HVAC

Animal
Environments



Role of the IACUC/OB in the Accreditation Process

Composition/Participation

Program Oversight

Policies and Procedures

Program Review/Inspections

Protocol Review



3Rs

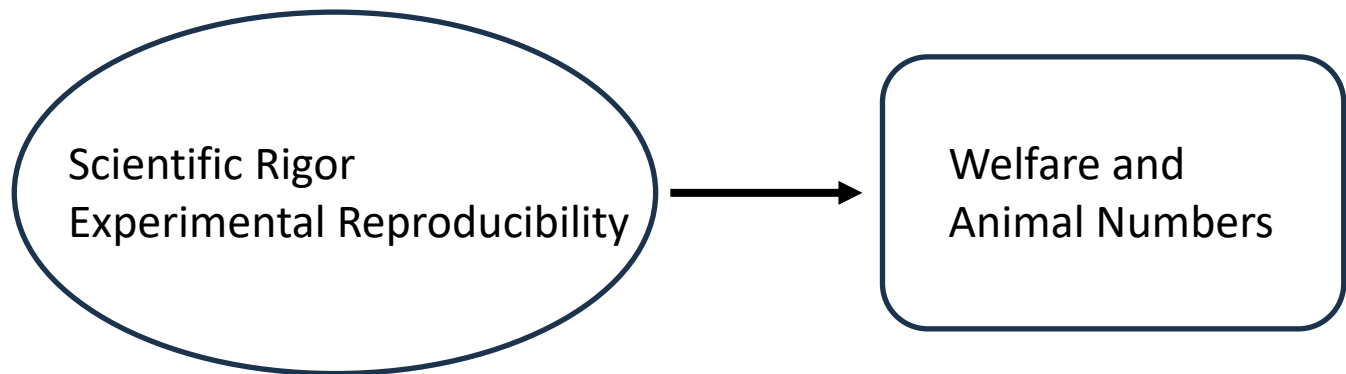
Sets expectations for application in a manner compatible with institutional goals.

Position Statement



www.aalac.org

Scientific Reproducibility



Culture of Care

Affirms
AAALAC's
commitment to
recognizing a
proactive
compassionate
approach to
animal care.



www.aaalac.org

Post Approval Monitoring

Robust continuing oversight

Proactive risk management

Compliance review of approved activity



Adverse Event Reporting



INSTITUTIONAL OVERSIGHT AND
CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



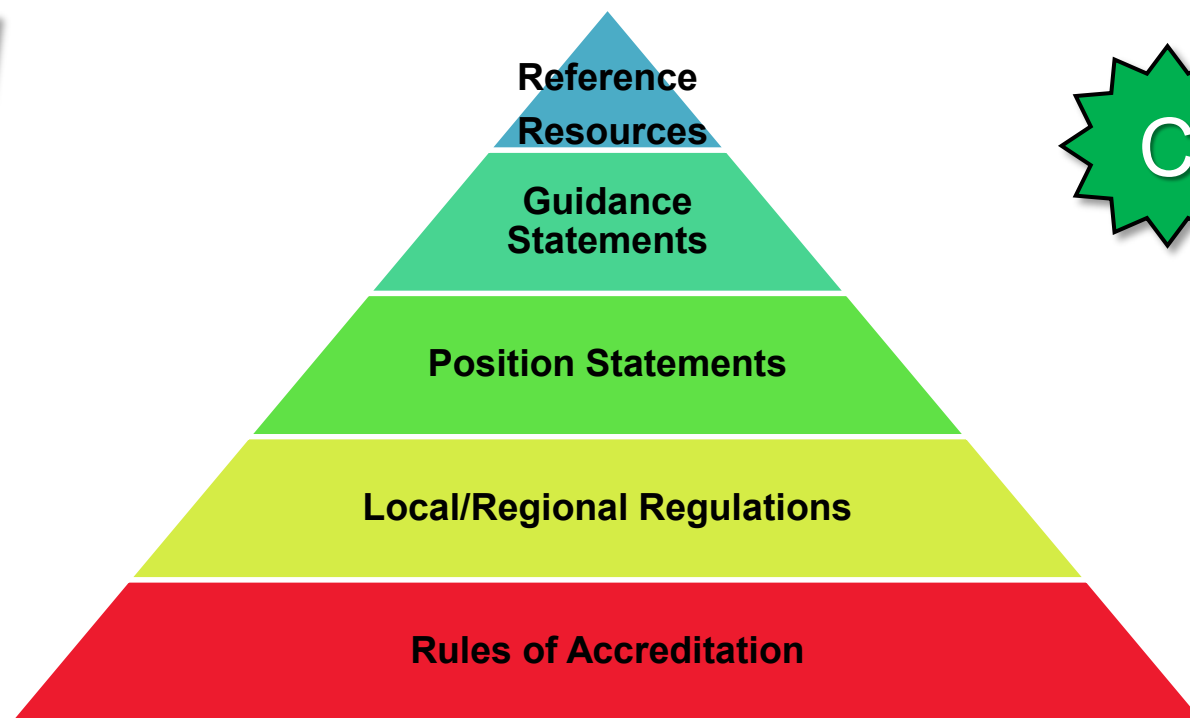
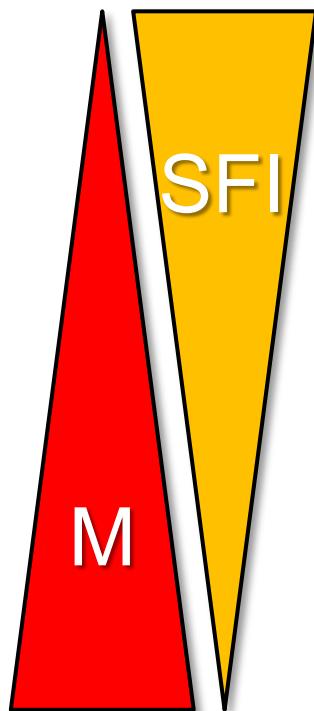
COMPLIANCE WITH AAALAC
INTERNATIONAL EXPECTATIONS



Training

- ✓ Resources Availability
- ✓ Training Effectiveness
- ✓ Documentation
- ✓ On-going Continuing Education





AAALAC's Standards



Position and Guidance Statements

Position Statements

Supplemental requirements and recommendations on selected topics

Clarify AAALAC expectations and support consistent interpretation

Used in accreditation to inform findings and, in some cases, commendations

Primary Purpose / Typical Outcome: Promote consistent application of expectations; may contribute to Mandatory Findings or recognition of exemplary practices

Guidance Statements

Clarification where questions commonly arise

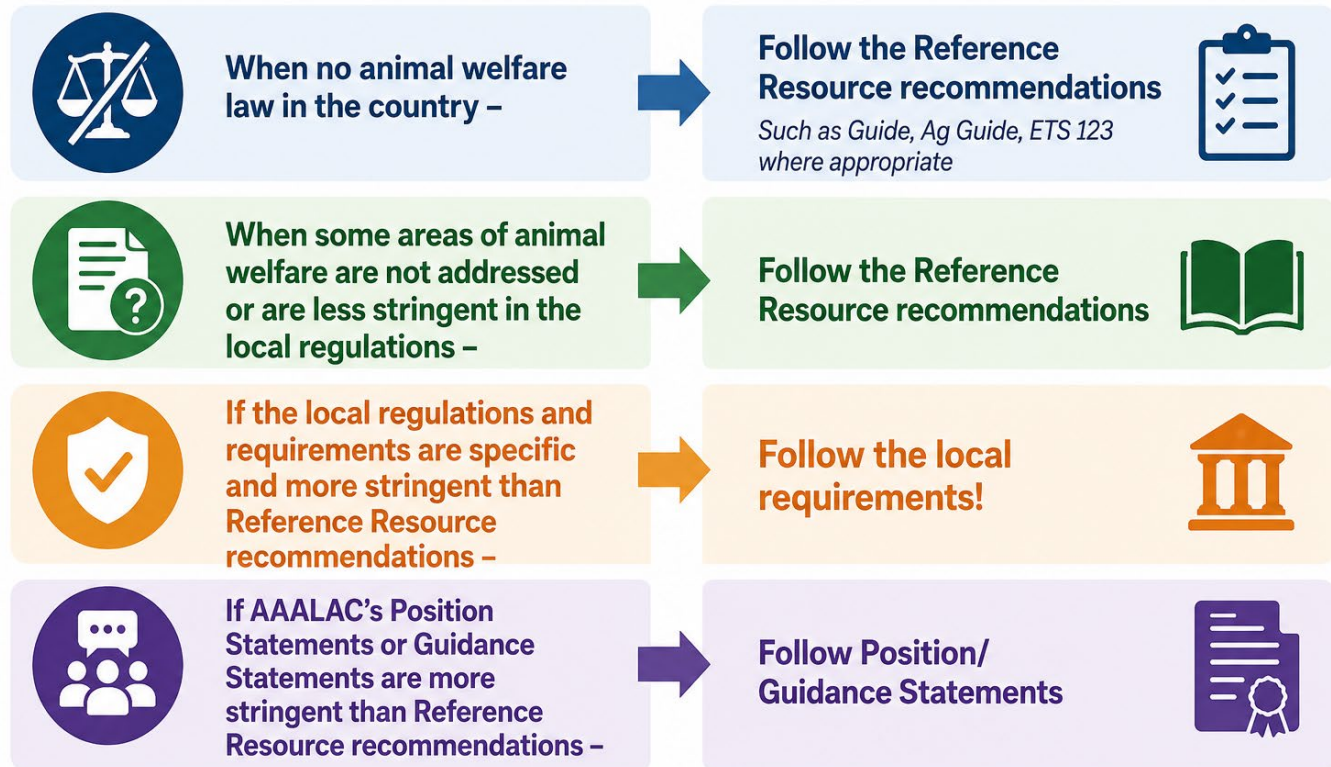
Clarify expectations when standards are not explicit

Used in accreditation to inform findings and more commonly support Suggestions for Improvement

Primary Purpose / Typical Outcome: Provide direction and clarification; typically support program enhancement and continuous improvement

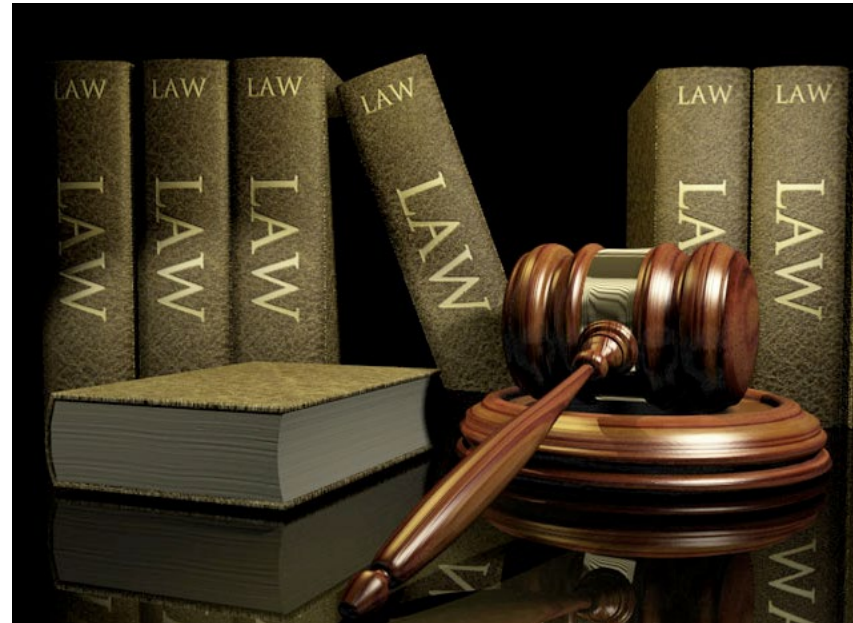


How to Determine Which Standards to Follow



Engineering Standards

- Defined, objective, measurable
- Often included in legislation as requirements
- Example: minimum cage dimensions; environmental conditions, composition IACUC/OB...



What Are Performance-Based Standards?

- ❖ Define outcomes, not rigid methods
- ❖ Focus on achieving thriving animals and strong programs
- ❖ Allows institutional flexibility



Accreditation Process



Self Evaluation

Development of Program
Description



Site Visit

Peer Review Assessment

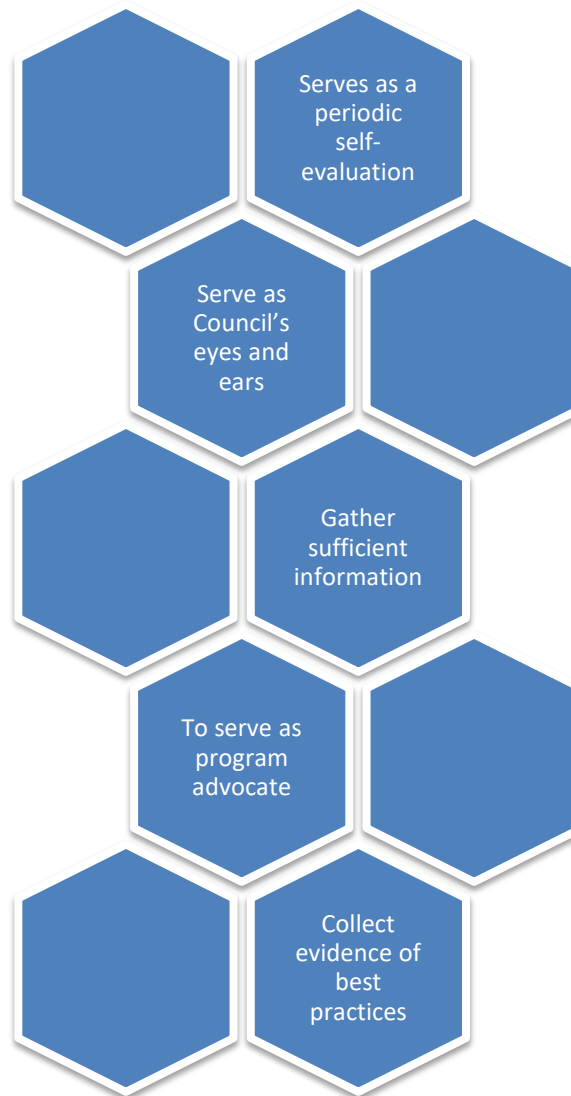


Council Deliberations

Council Determines
Accreditation Status



Purpose of the Site Visit



Site Visit Process

Entrance Briefing

Program Review

Facility Walk-through

IACUC/OB Meeting

Document Review

Executive Session

Exit Briefing



Entrance Briefing

Introductions

Explain the accreditation process

Review the proposed daily activities

Explain possible final outcomes

Offer Exit Briefing at conclusion

Program Review



Review/clarify aspects of program using the Program Description



Site visitors may request additional supporting information



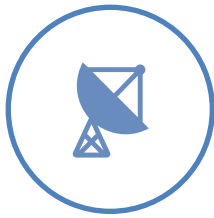
Facility Walk-through



Health of animals



Research staff
engagement



Sanitation/Repair of
facilities/satellites



Emergency Contacts
& veterinary support



Collaborations



Laboratory visits



Meeting with the IACUC/OB

Describe accreditation process

Speak with lay representatives

Discuss any issues or difficult protocols

Assess IACUC/OB training and
continuing education opportunities



Document Review

Disaster Plan

Adverse Event Reporting Plan

Training Records

Regulatory Agency Inspection Reports

Assurances

IACUC/OB meeting minutes/ semiannual
reports

Selected Animal Use Protocols

Selected Standing Operating Procedures
(SOPs)



Executive Session

Prepare

- Time to prepare for Exit Briefing

Discuss

- Discuss issues and prepare notes

Commendations

- Program Commendations

Recommendations

- Program Recommendations to convey to the Council on Accreditation for deliberation



Exit Briefing

- Conducted by Council member
- Summary of program strengths
- Review Commendations and
- Recommendations in the form of Mandatory findings and SFI.
- Independent opinions of site visitors
- Final decision from COA



Exit Briefing

- Opportunity to correct misinterpretations/ errors
- PSVC within 14 days
- Exit Briefing is provided verbally, not written



Preparing for a Site Visit

- Do
 - Maintain program in “AAALAC-ready” state
 - Self-identify and resolve deficiencies
 - Keep administration involved and educated
 - Make sure practices match the Program Description
- Don't
 - Practice “management by AAALAC”



The site visit should be a positive experience and an opportunity to demonstrate that you are remaining diligent, staying current with regulatory requirements and ever evolving industry standards, while maintaining a high level of excellence.



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High Standards of Humane and Responsible Animal Care

For more
information...

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www.aaalac.org



A world where excellence in
animal welfare and science
converge.





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Thank you!

aaalac.org | accredit@aaalac.org

