

	Title: Euthanasia and Carcass Disposal	SOP #	AV 40-101
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Standard Operating Procedure

1. Purpose

To outline the policies, regulations and guidelines that animal units must follow when euthanizing animals and disposing of carcasses.

2. Scope

All animal units must follow the *AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia* and IACUC policy when euthanizing animals. Exemptions to these policies must be approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and/or the Attending Veterinarian (AV). Carcass disposal must be in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.

3. Responsibilities

The Attending Veterinarian (AV) is responsible for the health and well-being of all laboratory animals used at an institution. The AV may approve and delegate veterinary care to other veterinarians.


4. Procedure

Euthanasia:

- Unless an IACUC exemption is given for scientific reasons, the methods for euthanasia for all species should be consistent with the most current edition of the *AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia*.
- Euthanasia will be performed by the Attending Veterinarian or an approved veterinary delegate.
- Refer to the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Veterinary Care Policy and Procedures (AV 40-100) and the SOPs for euthanasia of specific species. The Attending Veterinarian has specific standards of care for euthanasia of different types of animals.

Carcass Disposal:

- Animal carcasses must be properly disposed. Carcasses must never be placed in the regular trash.
- Animals euthanized with a barbiturate overdose should not be used as food for other animals.

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- Transgenic and/or genetically modified animals must not be used as food for other animals.
- Animals experimentally treated with hazardous materials must be disposed of according to regulations and guidelines for the agent used.

5. *References*

1. Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources: Guide for the Care and use of Laboratory Animals, National Academy Press, Eighth Edition (http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12910).
2. Animal Welfare Act and Animal Welfare Regulations. United States Department of Agriculture, 2013 (https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/downloads/Animal%20Care%20Blue%20Book%20-%202013%20-%20FINAL.pdf).
3. National Institutes of Health: Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/references/phspol.htm>).
4. The Federation of Animal Science Societies: Guide for the Care and Use of Agricultural Animals in Research and Teaching, 3rd Edition, 2010 (http://www.fass.org/docs/agguide3rd/Ag_Guide_3rd_ed.pdf).
5. AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals: 2013 Edition (<https://www.avma.org/KB/Policies/Documents/euthanasia.pdf>).

6. *Definitions*

1. AV – Attending Veterinarian – responsible for the health and well-being of all laboratory animals used at the institution
2. AVMA – American Veterinary Medical Association – a not-for-profit organization for advancing the science and practice of veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health
3. SOP – Standard Operating Procedure – established or prescribed methods to be followed routinely for the performance of designated operations or in designated situations
4. IACUC – Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee – responsible for assessment and oversight of the institution’s animal care program components and facilities
5. Chair – Chairperson of the IACUC
6. PI – Principal Investigator – a Central Oregon Community College employee having the background and training in scientific and administrative oversight necessary to conduct and manage the proposed study



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7. AUP – Animal Care and Use Protocol – protocol created by the principal investigator of the proposed research, testing, or educational study
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9. COCC – Central Oregon Community College
10. Guide – the *Guide for the Care and use of Laboratory Animals*
11. AWA – Animal Welfare Act – requires that minimum standards of care and treatment be provided for certain animals bred for commercial sale, used in research, transported commercially, or exhibited to the public
12. PHS – Public Health Service – establishes guidelines for the proper care of animals to be used in research

Revision	Author	Revisions Made	Effective Date	Approval
1	Cindy Elston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New SOP 	10/14/16	Cindy Elston (AV)
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