



AAALAC INTERNATIONAL

Number of Site Visits Per Year

2003	203
2004	198
2005	225
2006	201
2007	219
2008	235
2009	204

What's the Big Picture?

- Assessment & Evaluation
- Accreditation = CYA
- 3 Critical Components
 - Animal welfare
 - Safety
 - Science

Mandatory Item

vs.

Suggestion For Improvement

- **Mandatory Item** = a deficiency which must be corrected for Full Accreditation to be awarded or continued
- **Suggestion for Improvement (SFI)** = item which the Council feels is desirable to upgrade an already acceptable or even commendable program

Top Three Mandatory Deficiencies Identified During Site Visits

- Occupational Health and Safety Program (OHSP)
- IACUC
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) System

OHSP

Most frequent findings in this category:

1. OHSP not fully implemented
2. Inconsistency of OHSP policies
3. Inadequate intensity/coordination to ensure adequate personnel safety

Risk Assessment

Includes risk assessments of both:

1. Job category

- animal technician, veterinarian, Committee member, etc.

2. Individual

- based on medical evaluations of pre-existing or newly developed conditions

Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

From a letter to an accredited institution:

“...a student with animal allergies was washing soiled rodent caging in a sink in a manner that created aerosols. Although the individual was wearing a laboratory coat, the individual was not wearing gloves or respiratory protection and was unaware of the need for PPE.”

Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

From a letter to an accredited institution:

“Sheep were acquired from a farm not verified as being serologically-negative for Q-fever and no additional testing or precautions were conducted by the University. Ovariohysterectomies were performed on female sheep and some of the sheep had been reported to be pregnant. The caretaker hosed runs, which created aerosols, without wearing any respiratory protection. No species-specific safety standards for sheep had been considered.”

IACUC

Most frequent findings in this category:

- Protocol Review
- Policies
- Composition of Committee and Member Participation
- Semiannual Evaluations
- Documentation
- Training

Signs of a “Weak” Committee

- Inadequate relief/support for Chair
- Insufficient resources for Committee operation (staff, funding, etc.)
- Sketchy or incomplete protocol review
- Committee staff or Attending Veterinarian “runs” the committee and meetings
- Delegated facility inspections
- Inadequate semiannual facility inspections and program reviews

Protocol Review: Analgesia

Excerpt from a council letter:

“...The IACUC apparently did not consider the need for analgesics for studies involving the potential for pain and distress. Study protocol #XXX involved the use of rats that underwent middle ear surgery. Post operative pain medications were not described.....”

“.....The outcome of the IACUC’s re-evaluation of the study remains unclear. Council must be provided with the results and decisions of the IACUC’s re-evaluation of that protocol.....”

On the Horizon...

- 8th Edition of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*

AAALAC & The “New” Guide

- Council Retreat on the Guide (July 17-18th)
 - Identify differences from 1996 Guide
 - Identify possible issues for AAALAC
 - Develop recommendations to BOT
 - Develop implementation strategy
- Inform LAS Community
 - Timeline, etc.
- Update Program Description
- Training
 - Council Member Emeritus & Ad hoc consultant/specialist

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Many ways to stay in touch....

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Thank You!

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