

What to Know About Reporting Adverse Events



In order to ensure the continuity of animal care, Study Teams must report adverse events.

WHAT IS AN ADVERSE EVENT?

An adverse event is an *unexpected incident* that leads to a significant injury or illness, unrelieved pain or distress, or the death of an animal and/or human.

Adverse events **MUST** be reported to the Animal Care & Use Office (ACUO) at acuoffice@umich.edu.

WHAT IS AN EXPECTED ADVERSE CONSEQUENCE?

Expected adverse consequences are outcomes (clinical, physiological, and/or behavioral signs of pain or distress) of individual procedures and/or research models (e.g., genetic modifications) that are expected to cause more than momentary pain or distress but are not at the threshold for euthanasia.

The action(s) taken when adverse consequences are reached can vary; animals may require intervention, medical treatment, euthanasia, and/or removal from the study.

Expected adverse consequences must be described in the protocol, but do **NOT** need to be reported to the ACUO.



Regardless of the situation, always contact veterinary staff when clinical issues impacting animal health arise.

Emergency contact information can be found on the blue Obtaining Veterinary Care Sign posted on the animal housing room door.

Veterinary personnel are available 24 hours a day to respond to all animal health emergencies.

UNIT FOR LABORATORY ANIMAL MEDICINE (ULAM)
HOW TO OBTAIN VETERINARY CARE
Obtain veterinary care for an animal by using the contact information listed below.

WEEKDAYS MONDAY - FRIDAY		WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS SATURDAY - SUNDAY	
 NORMAL HOURS 8:00AM - 5:00PM	 AFTER HOURS 5:00PM - 6:00AM	 NORMAL HOURS 8:00AM - 1:00PM	 AFTER HOURS 1:00PM - 6:00AM
(734) 936-1037 ULAM Veterinary Technician Office	(734) 763-1131 ULAM Division of Public Safety & Security	(734) 936-1037 ULAM Veterinary Technician Office	(734) 763-1131 ULAM Division of Public Safety & Security

What information to include in your message:

- Species
- Animal location:
 - Building
 - Room number
 - Rack / slot number (if applicable)
 - Clinical number (if applicable)
- Description of animal health condition
- Your name and phone number

EXAMPLES OF ADVERSE EVENTS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- A cohort of animals dies during an experiment due to equipment or power failure;
- An animal's indwelling catheter is dislodged and the animal, or animals, is injured or dies;
- A cohort of animals experiences unexpected and/or higher than expected morbidity or mortality following a procedure;
- An animal dies or requires treatment or euthanasia due to human error (e.g., a blood vessel or organ is inadvertently damaged during a procedure, or the incorrect amount of substance is administered resulting in harm).

Questions?

Additional questions about reporting adverse events should be directed to the Animal Care & Use Office at acuoffice@umich.edu or (734) 763-8028.



ANIMAL CARE & USE PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

What to Know About Reporting Adverse Events



WHY SHOULD I REPORT AN ADVERSE EVENT?

Adverse events can be a one-time occurrence or indicative of broader programmatic concerns. Reporting these events safeguards animal welfare and potential research outcomes, and contributes to our collective goal of optimizing animal care and use at the University of Michigan.

Resolutions to adverse events may include:

- A change to a specific procedure OR to programmatic policies/standard operating procedures to avoid recurrence
- Revisions or amendments to the IACUC approved protocol to include new humane endpoints or proactive mechanisms for newly-learned anticipated consequences
- Re-training

PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING TO HELP GUIDE YOUR REPORTING:

If...	Report to...
Immediate care is needed for an animal and/or the incident relates to husbandry or clinical care of animals	<p>Veterinary care staff. Refer to the specific contact information posted on the animal housing room door (see also Obtaining Veterinary Care).</p> <p>Veterinary care can be requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + During normal business hours (Monday – Friday, 6:00 AM – 5:00 PM) by calling ULAM at (734) 764-0277 + After hours (Monday – Friday, 5:00 PM – 6:00 AM) by calling DPSS at (734) 763-1131 + Weekends and holidays by calling the on-site Veterinary Technician at (734) 936-1037. If the Veterinary Technician cannot be reached, contact DPSS at (734) 763-1131
No immediate intervention is needed	<p>Email the ACUO (acuoffice@umich.edu) and include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IACUC protocol number(s) and species • The nature of the event (briefly describe what occurred)
Anonymous reporting is necessary	<p>Use the Animal Concern Hotline (animalcare.umich.edu/hotline)</p>

Questions?

Additional questions about reporting adverse events should be directed to the Animal Care & Use Office at acuoffice@umich.edu or (734) 763-8028.