

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

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**TITLE:** Maximum Holding Period

**SOP NO.:** 311-01

**REVISION:**

**EFF. DATE:** February 2010

**SUPERSEDES:** NA

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## APPROVALS

Prepared by (print name): \_\_\_\_ S. Fussell \_\_\_\_ Dept.: \_\_\_\_ ACVS \_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by (print name): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept.: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by (print name): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept.: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 Holding animals for unapproved time periods is a compliance issue. It may also constitute an animal welfare, budgetary, workload or space issue. This SOP provides guidelines on holding periods for research animals.

## 2.0 SCOPE

- 2.1 This SOP applies to Western and affiliated institutions.

## 3.0 PROCEDURES

- 3.1 Animals may be held for a research procedure for any given time period provided that this time period has been specifically justified and approved by the AUS.
- 3.2 Holding periods that are not acceptable include
  - 3.2.1 Extended time periods prior to their being used in a research program unless indicated in the approved AUP.
  - 3.2.2 Extended time periods within a research study in excess of that indicated in the approved AUP.
  - 3.2.3 Extended time periods following the conclusion of an experiment unless this is indicated in the approved AUP.
  - 3.2.4 Extended periods are defined as 2 months
- 3.3 Where animals are held for times in excess of the guidelines above the AUS may
  - 3.3.1 Require
    - 3.3.1.1 euthanasia,
    - 3.3.1.2 transfer to another approved AUP,
    - 3.3.1.3 transfer to an ACVS teaching protocols were appropriate.

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## 4.0 SUMMARY

4.1 Adherence to this SOP will reduce costs to the researcher and prevent undue stress on research animals.

## 5.0 REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Reason(s) for Revision	Initiated by

## 6.0 REFERENCES / ASSOCIATED MATERIALS

6.1 None

## 7.0 ATTACHMENTS

7.1 None