

The University of Texas at Tyler Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

Reporting Animal Care & Welfare Concerns

The University of Texas at Tyler is committed to the humane treatment of all animals used in research. The use of live animals for the advancement of science and medicine is a privilege that carries a responsibility to follow all applicable laws, policies, and procedures with animal welfare concerns in mind. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is responsible for ensuring that animal treatment is in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act, the PHS Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, and the NIH Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

If you have concerns about the care and/or treatment of animals at UT Tyler, please contact the individuals listed below:

- Dr. Anna Kurdowska, Associate VP for Research Compliance / Research Compliance Officer at (903) 877-7738
- Dr. Amy Tvinnereim, IACUC Chair at (903) 877-5189

Your report can be written or verbally communicated. A Qualtrics survey is available for providing a written report of concerns. You may provide the information anonymously, and the University will preserve your anonymity as much as possible. The individual whom you contact will forward your report or concern to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) for review, investigation, and appropriate action. Please provide the following information (as well any other information you feel may be helpful):

1. Describe the incident.
2. Did you witness the incident personally?
3. When did the incident happen?
4. Where did the incident occur? (e.g., facility, room number and/or name of principal investigator)
5. Have you reported the incident to anyone else, and if so, what actions were taken and when?

6. Name of complainant and phone number or e-mail. (Optional)

Statement on Regulatory Authority

As outlined in regulations issued pursuant to the Animal Welfare Act, the IACUC is required to “review, and, if warranted, investigate concerns involving the care and use of animals at the research facility resulting from public complaints received and from reports of noncompliance received from laboratory or research facility personnel or employees.”

The USDA Animal Welfare Regulations provide protection against discrimination or other reprisals for reporting violations of the Animal Welfare Act (“whistleblower protection”). The regulations provide that “No facility employee, Committee member, or laboratory personnel shall be discriminated against or be subject to any reprisal for reporting violations of any regulations or standards under the Act.”