



Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Cervical Dislocation as a Method of Euthanasia Policy

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure, as much as possible, the comfort and safekeeping of animals used in research at Albert Einstein College of Medicine (Einstein).

II. Scope

This policy applies to all research experiments and programs at Einstein.

III. Policy

Cervical dislocation is used to euthanize mice, immature rats (< 200 g) and rabbits (< 1 kg), poultry, and other small birds. This technique may induce rapid unconsciousness. However, due to the possibility of momentary distress, this procedure is to be carried out only after administration of an anesthetic agent. Animal experiments that require the use of cervical dislocation without prior administration of an anesthetic agent must be scientifically justified. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee is responsible for approving protocols describing the use of cervical dislocation as a means of euthanasia. The Principal Investigator is the primary person responsible for ensuring that personnel who perform cervical dislocation are properly trained prior to the use of this euthanasia method.

IV. Definitions

None.

V. Effective Date

Effective as of: 19 February 2018.

VI. Policy Management and Responsibilities

Einstein's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is the Responsible Office under this Policy. The Institutional Official for the IACUC is the Responsible Executive for this policy. The IACUC Chairperson is the Responsible Officer for the management of this policy.

VII. Approved (or Revised)


Institutional Official


Date

Revision dates: 11/16/99, 6/15/2011, 8/20/2013, 3/21/2017, 2/19/18