

## IACUC Policy on the Use of Expired Material and Non-Pharmaceutical Grade Drugs

The use of expired medical materials such as drugs, fluids, or sutures is not considered to be acceptable veterinary practice and does not constitute adequate veterinary care. All expired medical materials must either be disposed of or segregated into an appropriately labeled, physically separate location from non-expired medical materials.

For acute terminal procedures, expired medical materials may be used, if their use does not adversely affect the animal's well-being or compromise the validity of the scientific study. Proper anesthesia, analgesia, and euthanasia are required for all such procedures. Drugs administered to relieve pain or distress and emergency drugs must not be used beyond their expiration date.

Pharmaceutical-grade medications are to be used whenever they are available, even in acute procedures. Non-pharmaceutical-grade chemical compounds should only be used after specific review and approval by the IACUC for reasons such as scientific necessity or non-availability of an acceptable veterinary or human pharmaceutical-grade product. Cost savings is not an adequate justification for using non-pharmaceutical-grade compounds in vertebrate animals. Justification should include consideration of grade, purity, sterility, pH, pyrogenicity, osmolality, stability, site and route of administration, formulation, compatibility, and pharmacokinetics of the chemical or substance to be administered, as well as animal welfare and scientific issues relating to its use.