TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
SAN ANTONIO

IACUC SOP:	Animal tissue Use and Carcasses
SOP#106.00	IACUC Approval: 08/07/2025

Background

Texas A&M University-San Antonio (A&M-SA) faculty/staff may require use of animal tissues or carcasses obtained from on-campus or off-campus sources for research, teaching, or testing on A&M-SA campus. Following the 3 R's (reduction, refinement, and replacement) established in Russell and Burch (1959), the A&M-SA's IACUC encourages efficient tissue use and sharing when possible. A completed animal use protocol is not necessary if only tissues or carcasses are used, and the animals were not euthanized solely for the purpose of tissue collection at A&M-SA.

This guideline is not intended for use with commercially available, purchased materials or rodent-derived cell lines; but outlines IACUC requirements for using animal tissue or carcasses on campus for research, teaching, or testing.

Definition:

The Animal Welfare Regulations/Animal Welfare Act define an animal as "any live or dead dog, cat, nonhuman primate, guinea pig, hamster, rabbit, or any other warm-blooded animal, which is being used, or is intended for use for research, teaching, testing, experimentation, or exhibition purposes, or as a pet."

Public Health Service Policy defines an animal as "any live, vertebrate animal used or intended for use in research, research training, experimentation, or biological testing or for related purposes."

Scope:

This guideline is applicable only for vertebrate animals.

Guidelines:

An IACUC Animal Use Protocol is required if any of the following criteria are met.
An animal is euthanized at A&M-SA specifically to provide tissue for the study
The tissue is harvested at A&M-SA when the animal is alive
The tissue is obtained from live animals by another investigator at A&M-SA
If euthanasia or other end points were modified to facilitate the tissue harvest at A&M-SA

If none of these above criteria apply, submit annual tissue inventory to the IACUC office which at minimum includes tissue type, source and if tissue carries a known infectious agent.
The submission will be read by the Office of Research Compliance and forwarded to the necessary committee for further action.

History:

Version 01 - Initial Approval: 12/16/2021; IO Approved 6/3/2022
Version 02- approved 8/07/2025