

Washington State University
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Guideline #6: Veterinary Pool and Veterinary Technician Pool

Approval Date: 4.26.2017

A. Purpose

According to federal regulations and WSU IACUC policy, all individuals performing procedures on live vertebrate animals used in teaching, testing, exhibition, and research must be adequately trained. Investigators either without specific training or who require additional assistance may utilize veterinary professionals to perform IACUC approved procedures and/or provide technical assistance by listing Veterinary pool and/or Veterinary technician pool under personnel on protocols and gaining IACUC approval. This document defines the minimum requirements for including an individual within Veterinary pool and/or Veterinary technician pool and when Veterinary pool and/or Veterinary technician pool should be added to a protocol. Two examples of the use of Veterinary pool include use of licensed veterinary technicians to collect blood samples from client-owned animals in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and the use of Office of the Campus Veterinarian veterinary staff to place intravenous catheters in rodents.

B. Background

Scope

The guidelines apply to the following:

- a. Projects within the WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) and College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) when WSU IACUC-approved protocols are applied for teaching, research, or testing
- b. Projects that utilize Office of the Campus Veterinarian (OCV) veterinary personnel for technical services
- c. Projects that utilize USDA - Agricultural Research Service veterinary medical officers for technical services

Requirements for including an individual under Veterinarian Pool:

- a. Graduated with a DVM or VMD degree or equivalent from an accredited college of veterinary medicine
- b. Employed by WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, College of Veterinary Medicine, USDA - Agricultural Research Service or the Office of the Campus Veterinarian

If an individual does not meet all the requirements, the individual's name should be listed on the protocol with information regarding the relevant training, experience, and expertise to perform the procedures indicated in the protocol.

Requirements for including an individual under Veterinarian Technician Pool:

- a. Licensed as a Veterinary Technician in the U.S. or Canada or meet the eligibility for examination as a veterinary technician as per Washington Administrative Code [WAC 246-935-060](#)
- b. Employed by WSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, College of Veterinary Medicine, USDA - Agricultural Research Service or the Office of the Campus Veterinarian

All individuals added to the veterinary technician pool must meet the requirements. An individual by virtue of being an animal manager, laboratory manager, laboratory technician or having passed American Association of Laboratory Animal Science certification courses cannot be considered to be a part of the veterinary technician pool. All personnel outside of the veterinary technician pool must be individually included in the protocol and their experience and training to perform the selected procedures must be provided for the reviewers.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this guideline, please call the Animal Welfare Program Office at 509-335-7951 or email iacuc@wsu.edu.