

Office of the Campus Veterinarian

Notification Protocol for Abnormal Behavior/Conditions in Research or Teaching Animals – SPOKANE Campus

In the event that Animal Care or Research personnel identify an abnormal animal (i.e. illness, injury, abnormal behavior or found dead), the following notification procedures should be followed. Animal Facilities can customize this protocol to meet their unique management needs but, as per federal law and [WSU-IACUC Policy #37](#), **the Office of the Campus Veterinarian (OCV) Spokane and the Attending Veterinarian must be informed of all abnormal animals at WSU Spokane.**

- 1) **Contact the Principle Investigator and/or research personnel** who are utilizing the animal in their research/teaching project. Many times, the abnormal behavior or appearance is related to the research project AND THEY NEED TO BE INFORMED. Notify them, the animal facility supervisor/manager **and** the OCV Spokane Veterinary Staff. The research and veterinary staff will consult to determine a plan for the animal.
 - a. For rodents with minor medical issues, the notification and treatment protocols are covered under IACUC SOP #9 - *Minor Medical Treatment of Rodents* (https://iacuc.wsu.edu/documents/2016/06/wsu_sop_9.pdf/)
- 2) **Contact the Office of the Campus Veterinarian:**
 - a. **OCV Emergency and After-hours/Holiday Cell Phone (24 hrs/7 days/week): 509-330-1871**
 - b. **OCV Spokane Departmental Email: ocv.spokane.vet@wsu.edu**
 - i. OCV web site: <http://campusvet.wsu.edu>
 - c. **OCV Spokane Phone Number (Monday – Friday, 8:00AM – 5:00 PM): 509-358-7825**
 - d. **OCV Pullman Main Line (Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM): 509-335-6246**
 - i. OCV Pullman Emergency and After-Hours/Holiday Cell Phone (12 hrs/7 day/week): 509-330-1871
 - ii. OCV Pullman Departmental Email: or.ocv.alert@wsu.edu
- 2) **If the animal appears to need immediate veterinary evaluation, staff must CALL the Veterinary Staff in a timely manner** to notify them of the animal medical issue and obtain veterinary consultation. The veterinarian will examine the animal and make a treatment plan. This is also required for situations that happen after hours, weekends and holidays.
 - a. **OCV Veterinary Emergency Cell Phone: 509-330-1871 (for all hours)**
 - i. WHEN LEAVING A MESSAGE: Include the location of the animal (building, room, pen, animal ID #s), animal identification and description, brief description of the concern(s) regarding the animal and your contact number so that the Veterinary Staff can reach you if they have questions.
 - ii. It is critical the Veterinary Staff is able to locate the animal. For indoor animals housed in cages/runs, please flag the animal's cage/pen with a **GREEN VET CHECK CARD**. If you do not have these cards, contact OCV (509-335-6246 or or.ocv.alert@wsu.edu) for a supply. Please fill out this card as completely as possible.
- 3) If the condition falls under WSU IACUC SOPs #9, #11, or #12, or other colony health SOP described on the protocol, or expected protocol specific illness where a veterinary approved treatment plan has been outlined – treatment should be implemented by trained staff. **There is still the requirement to notify the following individuals of these abnormal animals: Principle Investigator and/or research staff, Spokane Veterinary Staff, Animal Facility Supervisor and the Attending Veterinarian.**
- 4) **All abnormal animals must be logged on to the OCV Animal Health Database** located at <https://myresearch.wsu.edu/>. If you do not have access or have not been trained on this reporting procedure, please email the OCV Veterinary Staff at or.ocv.alert@wsu.edu.