



Policy Statement #17–11 Animal Reuse
Faculty of Science, Mahidol University–Institutional
Animal Care and Use Committee (MUSC–IACUC)

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the requirements for reuse of research animals. While it is a fundamental principle of animal research to refine, replace and reduce animal usage, animal welfare must be considered when applying these principles. Animals which have already been used on a study, especially when the well-being of the animal(s) has been compromised, should not be reused. The policy and procedure for animal reuse are listed as follow:

1. If you anticipate using experimentally naïve animals (e.g., excess from shipments or animals housed but not included in research manipulation or unused offspring from breeding colonies) from other protocols in your research or teaching, you must state in the Protocol Document that animals from other protocols may be used.
2. The following types of animal reuse require permission from the IACUC and notification to MUSC–CAF
 - a. Healthy experimentally naïve animals
 - b. Animals previously used only for breeding with no invasive procedures performed
 - c. Animals transferred from one approved protocol to another approved protocol for the purpose of immediate euthanasia, by an approved method stated in the protocol.
 - d. Animals that have been used for training (e.g., animal handling, vehicle injection, single blood sampling).
3. A protocol amendment, naming the protocol number the animals are coming from, must be submitted to the IACUC for the transfer from one protocol to another if the animal has been used for experimental procedures.
4. In no case may the Attending Veterinarian or the IACUC independently approve a transfer that would involve an animal having multiple major survival surgeries across protocols (i.e., one surgery in one protocol, and the second in a different protocol).