

10th Dec 2024

[NUS Internal]

**** IACUC Notice: IACUC/2024/11 ****

Implementation of IACUC Guidelines on Hands-on Practice Time-lapse

Dear PIs and researchers,

The revision of National Advisory Committee for Laboratory Animal Research (NACLAR) Guidelines (2nd edition) was released in (2022), the changes included the hands-on training of personnel working with animals.

Section iv.3.9 of the revised guidelines indicates *individuals with a hands-on practice lapse of 2 years or more years should attend hands-on refresher training or assessment of competency.*

<https://www.nparks.gov.sg/avs/animals/animals-in-scientific-research/naclar-guidelines/naclar-guidelines>

NUS IACUC recently approved IACUC Guidelines on Hands-on Practice Time-lapse to implement this practice within the NUS animal care and use program, with target of implementation on **4th Feb 2025** (2 months from date of this email).

Therefore:

- NUS IACUC strongly encourages PI to ensure that all personnel who are approved in the protocol to perform hands-on procedures with animals regularly work with animals (hands-on) without time lapse.
- If any of the personnel approved in the protocol has hands-on practice time-lapse for 2 years or more, for the applicable species, and/or procedures as indicated in the ***IACUC Guidelines on hands-on practice time-lapse***, it is the PI's responsibility to ensure that personnel complete one of the following options:
 - **Option 1:** Personnel to complete applicable mandatory **RCULA Basic Training** for the specific species by CM (to contact RCULA to register).
 - **Option 2:** Personnel to undergo refresher training, or competency assessment by an experienced personnel (with IACUC approval)
- Detailed information and requirements to refer to ***IACUC Guidelines on hands-on practice time-lapse*** and ***NUS IACUC Policy on Training (P104: Education and Training for the Humane Care and Use of Animals)***
- Please contact RCULA Training team at rcula@nus.edu.sg to register for the refresher training, or if you have any questions regarding refresher training.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
NUS IACUC Committee

IACUC Office
(Transmitted via email)