

# UT News

Office of Medical Information  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas  
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard Dallas, Texas 75235  
214/688-3404

October 1, 1985

CONTACT: Pamela Lyon  
OFFICE: (214) 688-3404  
HOME: (214) 826-4455

\*\*\*\* Workshop at UTHSCD to address  
new federal guidelines for animal research

**EDITOR'S NOTE --** There will be a press conference with Dr. Charles R. McCarthy, director of the National Institutes of Health Office for Protection from Research Risks, and UTHSCD officials at 11 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 21, in Room E6.200 at the health science center.

DALLAS---A regional workshop on the new federal guidelines regarding the use and care of research animals will be held at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas on Oct. 21 and 22.

The workshop, sponsored by the Office for Protection from Research Risks (OPRR) of the National Institutes of Health, is the second in a nationwide series of seminars to explain implementation of the recently revised Public Health Service policy on the care and use of laboratory animals.

The workshop also will address revisions to the NIH "Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals," which is used by institutions in the continuing self-assessment of their compliance with the policy. In addition, small group discussions will be held on specific issues and concerns about implementation of the new policy.

All institutions that receive federal research funds must comply with the new policy, which goes into effect Dec. 31, or risk losing their government grants. Nearly 850 schools and research institutions, including UTHSCD, currently receive federal monies, which account for the bulk of research funding in the United States.

"It's important to explain clearly to institutions what is required under the new policy," says Dr. Steven P. Pakes, chairman of the committee that revised the NIH guide. "The institutions know they must comply -- they want to comply -- but they want to clearly understand how they can comply."

Pakes is director of the Animal Resources Center at UTHSCD and the person responsible for implementing the policy here.

The revised NIH policy details more explicit procedures for the care and use of laboratory animals, requires every institution that receives federal funds for animal research to file an assurance stating that it is in compliance with federal guidelines and clearly prescribes a more active role for Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees.

The committees are responsible for annually reviewing the institution's program for the humane care and use of laboratory animals, inspecting all animal facilities and recommending needed changes to the administration. In addition, all research proposals that involve using animals in experiments and any proposed changes to existing animal research projects must be approved by the committee, which has the power to suspend any questionable activity.

Under the new policy, the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee must include at least five members, including a veterinarian with training or experience in laboratory animal science, a practicing scientist experienced in research involving animals, a member whose primary concern is in a nonscientific area and a member who is not affiliated with the research institution and who represents the public interest.

(more)



The NIH policy was revised this year amid public concern about the use of animals in research. Earlier this year, federal research funds were suspended at the University of Pennsylvania and the City of Hope Research Institute and Medical Center in Duarte, Calif., pending investigation of charges by animal rights advocates that laboratory animals were treated inhumanely, violating federal rules.

Dr. Charles R. McCarthy, who as director of the OPRR recommends the suspension of federal funds to noncompliant institutions, will be among the featured speakers at the workshop.

Institutional administrators, animal care committee members, laboratory animal veterinarians, researchers and anyone interested in the sound management of humane animal research are encouraged to attend the workshop. Participants are invited from an 11-state area surrounding Texas, including Arizona on the west, Nebraska on the north and Louisiana on the east.

There is a \$35 fee, which includes cocktails and dinner at the UTHSCD faculty club on Monday, Oct. 21. The schedule for the two-day program, which will be held in Room D1.502 at the health science center, is as follows:

October 21:

- Noon - Registration.
- 2 p.m. - Welcome. "Institutional Commitment to Humane Use and Care of Research Animals," Dr. Charles C. Sprague, UTHSCD president.
- 2:15 p.m. - "NIH Revised Policy on Use of Animals in Research," McCarthy.
- 3 p.m. - "Sample Institutional Assurance Required of Public Health Service Grantees," OPRR Staff.
- 4 p.m. - Open discussion of the revised policy.
- 5 p.m. - "Changes in 1985 Revision of the NIH Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals," Pakes.
- 6 p.m. - Cocktail hour.
- 7 p.m. - Dinner. Faculty Club.

October 22:

- 8 a.m. - "Implementing the Guide and Policy," Pakes.
- 8:15 a.m. - "Responsibilities of the Administration and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee," Dr. J. Derrell Clark, director of animal resources, University of Georgia.
- 8:45 a.m. - "Responsibilities of the Animal Resource (Care) Unit", Dr. Fred W. Quimby, director of the Center for Research, Animal Resources, Cornell University.
- 9:15 a.m. - "Responsibilities of Investigators," Dr. Charles R. Rosenfeld, professor of pediatrics and OB-Gyn, UTHSCD.
- 10 a.m. - Workshops to discuss problems and solutions in implementing the guide and policy.
- 11:30 a.m. - Lunch.
- 12:45 p.m. - Workshop leaders report on group discussions.
- 1:30 p.m. - Summarization.
- 2 p.m. - Adjournment.

Participants should register in advance with Edie McCain at the Animal Resources Center at UTHSCD. Cancellation notice must be received by Oct. 16. For more information, contact Ms. McCain at 688-3340.

##

DISTRIBUTION: AA,AB,AC,AI,AH