Euthanasia of Moribund Animals Policy

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure, as much as possible, the comfort and safekeeping of animals used in research at Albert Einstein College of Medicine (Einstein).

II. Scope

This policy applies to all research experiments and programs at Einstein.

III. Policy

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine authorizes the veterinary staff of the Institute for Animal Studies (IAS) to euthanize laboratory animals that are found to be either in unrelieved pain or moribund, unless it has been specifically justified and approved by the IACUC that these animals be allowed to remain in unrelieved pain or distress, and/or die to meet the experimental objectives of the Principal Investigator (PI) under a protocol approved for such objectives. The IAS veterinary staff will make a good faith effort to contact the PI and/or laboratory personnel who have responsibility for the animals in unrelieved pain or distress or animals that are moribund prior to performing euthanasia. However, if a responsible individual cannot be contacted, euthanasia will be carried out by the veterinary staff of the IAS, and the PI will be notified of the action taken.

IV. Definitions

None.

V. Effective Date

Effective as of: 20 February 2018.

VI. Policy Management and Responsibilities

Einstein’s Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) is the Responsible Office under this Policy. The Institutional Official for the IACUC is the Responsible Executive for this policy. The IACUC Chairperson is the Responsible Officer for the management of this policy.
VII. Approved (or Revised)

Institutional Official  Date

3/30/2019

Revision dates: 3/21/2001, 6/15/2011, 10/15/13, 2/20/18