Investigator Colony Management Responsibilities and ULAR Support Services

The research team must provide oversight and care for research colonies including management of breeding colonies, monitoring of adverse effects of experimental manipulations, recognition of unanticipated events, euthanasia as required per protocol timelines, early removal criteria (ERC), and/or welfare concerns. The IACUC mandates that ULAR staff take action to ensure humane care and use of animals if the research team does not do so in a timely fashion.

ULAR staff are also available as a “fee for service” to assist researchers in meeting these responsibilities and for providing technical support for various procedures. Requests for ULAR Technical services should be received at least 5 business days in advance to ensure staff and/or needed supplies are available. Details on the fees for such services are located on our Rates and Fees webpage. If you are unsure what supplies will be needed, we can provide that information based on the techniques being performed.

Examples of ULAR technical support available:

- Rodent blood sampling
- Weaning *(Note: IACUC requires ULAR staff to wean mice which are past the accepted weaning period or when age discrepancies of the litters presents a welfare concern due to trampling. See IACUC policy: http://orrp.osu.edu/files/2011/10/Mouse-Breeding-and-Cage-Density.pdf)*
- Rodent colony management (including weaning, genotype sample collection, etc.)
- Rodent identification
- Injections
- Standard surgeries
- Euthanasia

For IACUC mandated services, the charges are allocated to the animals’ housing per diem account.

For investigator requested services, please send a completed request for technical services form (located on the ULAR website under the forms tab) to ulartechsupport@osu.edu. In addition, the Laboratory Animal Health Technician (LAHT) or clinical veterinarian in your facility can be contacted for further details or scheduling. For contact information, please see http://ular.osu.edu/contact.

Note: In situations where emergency action is needed, ULAR will make efforts to directly reach the research team before treating or euthanizing animals. ULAR fees will not be assessed in these cases as it in the best interest of animal welfare. For other euthanasia services at study endpoints or non-emergency euthanasia needs, the fee for service charge based on technical time will be applied.