



Canadian Council on Animal Care
Conseil canadien de protection des animaux

Good Animal Practice in Science

Bonnes pratiques animales en science

Assessment Program Update

CCAC National Workshop

Montreal, November 1st, 2007

Michael Baar, Assessment Director and
Assessment Program Coordinator

Assessment Program

- Assessment Committee
- Assessment panels
- CCAC Secretariat
- Animal Care Committees (ACCs)



Assessment Committee

- Committee of peers, members of CCAC Council, who review all assessment and implementation reports, assign statuses to institutions, decide on policies and procedures, and generally oversee the appropriate functioning of the Program



Secretariat

- 3 Assessment Directors (Gilles Demers, Michael Baar and Marie Bédard)
- 1 Manager of Assessment Communications (Jumoke Fasoyinu)
- 2 Scientific Writers (Tricia Abe and Pascale Belleau)
- 1 Administrative Assistant (Linda Rhéaume)



Institutional ACCs

- Fundamental *CCAC policy statement on: terms of reference for animal care committees* (2006)
- Most institutions have adjusted their ACC's Terms of Reference and operations to meet the new CCAC policy (was to be completed for September 2007)
- Assessment panels will continue to work with institutions to ensure that these adjustments are made



Important points for ACC functioning

- Active support by the senior administrator
- Authority of the ACC and veterinarian
- Work of the ACC Coordinator
- Orientation of ACC members
- Good communication with all members of the program
- Post-approval monitoring



Other recent tools for ACCs

- Updated information on CCAC website (2007)
- 2006 CCAC-CFHS *Manual for Community Representatives*
- 2006 *Interpretation bulletin on: animal use data form* (national statistics)
- *Animal Care and Use Program Review Form*



Program Review Form (PRF)

- Created in 2002 to provide a self-assessment tool to institutions, and ensure consistent and complete assessments of institutions;
- Is best suited to the majority of participants in the CCAC Program, i.e. those who use laboratory animals in relatively large numbers



Improvements to the PRF

- General update
- The form is now sufficiently flexible to be used by organisations that are very different in their size and goals
- Those that use farm animals, fish, wildlife will find sections that are much better adapted to their needs



Deadlines for the new PRF

- The new PRF is presently being revised and formatted in both languages, and will be available on the website and begin to be used in early 2008



New policy for senior administrators

- Until now, there has been no specific policy for senior administrators, even though they must see to the appropriate functioning of the whole institutional program;
- The Assessment Committee therefore drafted, in 2006-2007, a new policy to define what a complete and appropriate animal care and use program includes



Development of the new policy

- Widespread review of the policy between March and June 2007
- New draft produced by the Assessment Committee in August, and reviewed by those who had comments on the first draft
- The Assessment Committee is presently preparing the final version, so that it can be approved by Council by March 2008



Important elements in the new policy

- Implementation of a **sound institutional program structure** that allows for good communication between all parties
- **Institutional responsibility for ensuring that animal use has merit**
(scientific/pedagogical/regulatory)
- **Active support of the ACC** is essential
- **Sufficient and well structured** veterinary and animal care resources must be in place



Important elements (cont'd)

- Ensure that **animal users are well informed** about all aspects of the program, and that they understand that animal use is a privilege
- Ensure that all animals are housed and used in **appropriate and sufficient facilities**
- Ensure that all **persons** potentially exposed to animals are **protected from risks**
- Ensure that all elements are in place for **CCAC certification**



Thank you!

- Please contact us with any questions:
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