What Common Elements Should be the Basis of Post-Approval Monitoring?

Current CCAC Policy:
Is Guidance Sufficient? Your Comments?

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Animal Care and Use Programs (ACUPs)

- Goal of ACUPs is to safeguard animal well-being
  - Obliges a broad spectrum of activities and requirements with continuous oversight and review
    - Elements of oversight/continuous review captured in the institution’s PAM program
What is Post-Approval Monitoring

- The ‘safeguards’ instituted by an animal care and use program to effectively identify and address difficulties/concerns (and ID the positives) with any aspect of animal care and use at the institution
  - Collaborative process (prerequisite)
    - Safeguarding animal well-being requires all to participate
Objective of Post-Approval Monitoring

- “To ensure AUPs and SOPs are applied in practice as approved in principle by the ACC” (CCAC)
- Directive from Tri-council MOU
  - Schedule 3, Policy and Legislation – “The institutions must have procedures in place to monitor ongoing work and to ensure conformity with federal and provincial guidelines, regulations, and laws covering the use of animals in research, teaching and testing”
What elements define a ‘Successful’ PAM Program? (Our discussion today)

But first, what is meant by ‘successful’

- PAM program that promotes strict compliance to AUPs, SOPs, Institutional SOPs/policies
  
OR

- PAM program that promotes adherence to/utilization of ‘good practices’
Current CCAC Policy on PAM

- Institutions establish own procedures for PAM
  - Define roles and responsibilities of members of animal care and use program in PAM
- ACC’s central to process of meeting PAM objective
- Senior administrators kept informed
  - Resolve uncorrectable breaches – sanctions if necessary
Current CCAC Policy on PAM (continued)

- ACC’s responsible to:
  - Identify and work to correct AUP/SOP/OHS compliance breaches
    - Clear reporting to ACC/ACC chair and breaches must be promptly addressed
      - Communicate with animal user, site visit (senior administrator as necessary)
Current CCAC Policy on PAM (continued)

- ACC’s need to:
  - Work with veterinary and animal care staff to ensure compliance with ACC decisions
    - Vet/animal care staff work collegially with animal users to correct deficiencies
  - Delegate authority to vet to treat/remove/euthanize (contact PI and ACC chair)
    - If necessary, delegate certain responsibilities to experienced animal care staff
Should CCAC policy focus on institutions tailoring own PAM programs with recommendations to use the following sources of information (PAM elements)?

- Animal Users (e.g. renewals, amendments, monitoring)
- Vet and animal care staff; use of endpoints
- ACC site visits; Animal use data
- ACC +/- PAM meetings with animal users
- Training; mechanisms to ID need for training
- Assistance and follow-up for new/difficult procedures
Canadian Council on Animal Care

Discussion

- Tailor PAM to institution?
- How do you define a ‘successful’ PAM program?
  - Compliance vs Adherence
- Does current policy provide sufficient guidance?
  - What is missing? What should be added?
  - What needs modification?
  - What should be removed?
Discussion

Tailor PAM to institution?

- Programs highly variable – size, complexity
  - Reality is ACC’s have finite resources (funding, skills, time, data management) to ‘ensure AUPs/SOPs/OHS applied in practice as approved in principal by ACCs’

- CCAC provide guidance but not prescriptive
  - Allow ACCs to encourage animal users to follow approved practices b/c ‘it is the right thing to do’
Discussion

- How do you define a ‘successful’ PAM program?
  - Compliance vs Adherence
    - Language is important
  - Tolerance to refinements that enhance welfare and research/teaching as AUP proceeds
    - Capture the minor deviations/drift
Discussion

Does current policy provide sufficient guidance?

- The PAM elements:
  - Animal Users; Vet and animal care staff; Use of endpoints; ACC site visits; Animal use data; ACC +/-or PAM meetings; Training; Mechanisms to ID training need; Assistance and follow-up for new/difficult procedures

- Collectively, provide sustained observation and is collaborative
Discussion

- PAM elements highlighted:
  - Vet and animal care staff
  - Post-approval review – Vet lead; AUPs, Facility
  - Training and ID of training
    - AUPs, M&M, PAR, animal users
  - Assistance with new procedures
  - Documentation
Other Comments?