

**Overarching Principle and Intent**

Western Sydney University complies with the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes (2013) and the New South Wales Animal Research Act (1985) and its regulations. Other policies, guidelines and codes that are complied with include those published by the Animal Research Review Panel (ARRP), NHMRC and the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR).

**Species, Purpose and Procedure Descriptions**

**Purpose and Procedure Categories**

**Note:** Detailed Purpose and Procedure descriptions can be found below.

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| **PURPOSE** | **PROCEDURE** |
| 1 | Stock breeding | 1 | Observation involving minor interference |
| 2 | Stock maintenance | 2 | Animal unconscious with no recovery |
| 3 | Education | 3 | Minor conscious procedure |
| 4 | Research: Human or animal biology | 4 | Minor surgery with recovery |
| 5 | Research: Human or animal health & welfare | 5 | Major surgery with recovery |
| 6 | Research: Animal management or production | 6 | Minor physiological challenge |
| 7 | Research: Environmental study | 7 | Major physiological challenge |
| 8 | Production of biological products | 8 | Death as an end point |
| 9 | Diagnostic procedures | 9 | GMO Production |
| 10 | Regulatory product testing |   |   |

**Species**

Enter the numerical code (1 - 56) from those listed below to describe the species or species group used in the project.

**Note:** The numerical code is not sequential - for each species used select the appropriate numerical code as listed in the table below.

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| **SPECIES** |
| **Lab mammal** | 1 | Mouse |  | **Domestic**  | 31 | Cats |
|  | 2 | Rat |  |  | 32 | Dogs |
|  | 3 | Guinea Pig |  |  | 33 | Other |
|  | 4 | Rabbit |  | **Primates** | 34 | Marmosets |
|  | 5 | Hamster |  |  | 35 | Macaques |
|  | 6 | Ferret |  |  | 36 | Baboons |
|  | 7 | Other |  |  | 37 | Other |
| **Stock**  | 8 | Sheep |  | **Native mammal** | 38 | Macropods |
|  | 9 | Cattle |  |  | 39 | Possums, Gliders |
|  | 10 | Pigs |  |  | 40 | Native rats, Mice |
|  | 11 | Horses |  |  | 41 | Dasyurids |
|  | 12 | Goats |  |  | 42 | Wombats |
|  | 13 | Domestic Poultry |  |  | 43 | Koalas |
|  | 14 | Deer |  |  | 44A | Monotremes |
|  | 15 | Other |  |  | 44B | Bandicoots |
| **Birds** | 16 | Exotic Captive |  |  | 44C | Bats |
|  | 17 | Exotic Wild |  |  | 44D | Other |
|  | 18 | Native Captive |  | **Exotic feral** | 45 | Camels |
|  | 19 | Native Non-Endemic |  |  | 46 | Cats |
|  | 20 | Native Wild |  |  | 47 | Cattle |
|  | 21 | Other |  |  | 48 | Goats |
| **Aquatic** | 22 |   |   |  | 49 | Hares |
|  | 23 | Fish |  |  | 50 | Horses |
|  | 24 | Amphibians |  |  | 51 | Mice |
|  | 25 |   |   |  | 52 | Pigs |
|  | 26 | Other |  |  | 53 | Rabbits |
| **Reptiles** | 27 | Lizards |  |  | 54 | Rats |
|  | 28 | Snakes |  |  | 55A | Dingo/Wild Dog |
|  | 29 | Tortoises |  |  | 55B | Fox |
|  | 30 | Other |  |  | 55C | Other |
|  |  |  |  | **Zoo** | 56 | Zoo Animals |

**Purpose - Detailed Description**

Enter the **most appropriate** numerical code (1-10) from those listed below to describe the **primary** purpose of the project (one purpose only for each project should be entered).

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| **Purpose Number:** | **Description:** |
| **1** | ***Stock breeding*** |
| Breeding projects to produce new teaching or research stock. Include the animals used to produce progeny and any breeders or progeny culled in the process, NOT the final progeny themselves (as these will be counted under the project in which they go on to be used). |
| **2** | ***Stock maintenance*** |
| Holding projects for animals maintained for use in other projects. These animals may be maintained under an ethics authority because they require special management. If they are not held under an authority, (eg. normal stock animals kept mainly for commercial production, but occasionally used in research) then they are only counted in the project where they are used for teaching/research. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·      *Fistulated ruminants which are maintained under a holding project, for use in other short term feeding trial projects* |
| ·       *Non-breeding colony of diabetic rats held for research in other projects* |
| **3** | ***Education*** |
| Projects carried out for the achievement of educational objectives. The purpose of the project is not to acquire new knowledge, rather to pass on established knowledge to others. This would include interactive or demonstration classes in methods of animal husbandry, management, examination and treatment. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·           *Animals used by veterinary schools to teach examination procedures such as pregnancy diagnosis* |
| ·           *Sheep used in shearing demonstration classes for students; Dogs used to teach animal care to TAFE students* |
| **4** | ***Research: human or animal biology*** |
| Research projects which aim to increase the basic understanding of the structure, function and behaviour of animals, including humans, and processes involved in physiology, biochemistry and pathology. |
| **5** | ***Research: human or animal health and welfare*** |
| Research projects which aim to produce improvements in the health and welfare of animals, including humans. |
| **6** | ***Research: animal management or production*** |
| Research projects which aim to produce improvements in domestic or captive animal management or production. |
| **7** | ***Research: environmental study*** |
| Research projects which aim to increase the understanding of animals’ environment or their role in it. These will include studies to determine population levels and diversity and may involve techniques such as observation, radio tracking or capture and release. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·           *Pre-logging or pre-development fauna surveys* |

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| **8** | ***Production of biological products*** |
| Using animals to produce products other than milk, meat, eggs, leather, fur, etc. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·           *Use of a sheep flock to donate blood to produce microbiological media* |
| ·           *Production of commercial anti-serum* |
| ·           *Production of products, such as hormones or drugs, in milk or eggs from genetically modified animals* |
| ·           *Quality Assurance testing of drugs* **butdo not include animals which come under Purpose 10, below.** |
| **9** | ***Diagnostic procedures*** |
| Using animals directly as part of a diagnostic process. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·           *Inoculation of day old chicks with ND Virus to determine virulence* |
| ·           *Blue-green algae toxicity testing* |
| ·           *Water supply testing using fish* |
| **10** | ***Regulatory product testing*** |
| Projects for the testing of products required by regulatory authorities, such as the APVMA. **If the product testing is not a regulatory requirement, eg. it is part of a quality assurance system only, those animals should be included in the appropriate category selected from above.** (This would be normally be category 8 in the case of QA testing.) |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·         *Pre-registration efficacy or toxicity testing of drugs and vaccines* |

**Procedure – Detailed Description**

Enter the **highest appropriate** numerical code (**1-9**) from those listed below to describe the type of procedures carried out on the animals in the project. The descriptions given are a guide only.

**Note:** for each project include additional lines for each procedure category where different animals within the same project are subjected to different procedure categories.

Where 'Death as an endpoint' or 'Production of genetically modified animals ' applies, animals must be placed in these categories (8 or 9) rather than any others which might also appear appropriate.

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| **Procedure Number:** | **Description:** |
| **1** | ***Observation Involving Minor Interference*** |
| Animals are not interacted with or, where there is interaction, it would not be expected to compromise the animal's welfare any more than normal handling, feeding, etc. There is no pain or suffering involved. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·         *Observational study only* |
| ·         *Breeding animals for supply, where only normal husbandry procedures are used* |
| ·         *Breeding or reproductive study with no detriment to the animal* |
| ·         *Feeding trial, such as Digestible Energy determination of feed in a balanced diet* |
| ·         *Behavioural study with minor environmental manipulation* |
| ·         *Teaching of normal, non-invasive husbandry such as handling and grooming* |
| **2** | ***Animal Unconscious Without Recovery***  |
| Animal is rendered unconscious under controlled circumstances with little or no pain or distress. Capture methods are not required. Any pain is minor and brief and does not require analgesia. Procedures are carried out on the unconscious animal which is then killed without regaining consciousness. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·         *Laboratory animals killed painlessly for dissection, biochemical analysis, etc* |
| ·         *Teaching surgical techniques on live, anaesthetised patients which are not allowed to recover following the procedure* |
| **3** | ***Minor Conscious Intervention*** |
| Animal is subjected to minor procedures which would normally not require anaesthesia or analgesia. Any pain is minor and analgesia usually unnecessary, although some distress may occur as a result of trapping or handling. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·        *Injections, blood sampling in conscious animal* |
|  ·        *Minor dietary or environmental deprivation or manipulation, such as feeding nutrient- deficient diets for short periods* |
| ·        *Trapping and release as used in species impact studies*  |
| ·        *Trapping and humane euthanasia for collection of specimens* |
| ·        *Stomach tubing, shearing* |
| **4** | ***Minor Surgery With Recovery*** |
| Animal is rendered unconscious with as little pain or distress as possible. A minor procedure such as cannulation or skin biopsy is carried out and the animal allowed to recover. Depending on the procedure, pain may be minor or moderate and post-operative analgesia may be appropriate. |
| Field capture using chemical restraint methods is also included here. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·         *Biopsies*  |
| ·         *Cannulations* |
| ·         *Sedation/anaesthesia for relocation, examination or injections/blood sampling* |
| **5** | ***Major Surgery With Recovery*** |
| Animal is rendered unconscious with as little pain or distress as possible. A major procedure such as abdominal or orthopaedic surgery is carried out and the animal allowed to recover. Post operative pain is usually considerable and at a level requiring analgesia. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·         *Orthopaedic surgery* |
| ·         *Abdominal or thoracic surgery* |
| ·         *Transplant surgery*  |
| **6** | ***Minor Physiological Challenge*** |
| Animal remains conscious for some or all of the procedure. There is interference with the animal's physiological or psychological processes. The challenge may cause only a small degree of pain/distress or any pain/distress is quickly and effectively alleviated. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·         *Minor infection* |
| ·         *Minor or moderate phenotypic modification* |
| ·         *Early oncogenesis* |
| ·         *Arthritis studies with pain alleviation* |
| ·         *Induction of metabolic disease* |
| ·         *Prolonged deficient diets* |
| ·         *Polyclonal antibody production* |
| ·         *Antiserum production* |
| **7** | ***Major Physiological Challenge*** |
| Animal remains conscious for some or all of the procedure. There is interference with the animal's physiological or psychological processes. The challenge causes a moderate or large degree of pain/distress which is not quickly or effectively alleviated. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·         *Major infection* |
| ·         *Major phenotypic modification* |
| ·         *Oncogenesis without pain alleviation* |
| ·         *Arthritis studies with no pain alleviation* |
| ·         *Uncontrolled metabolic disease* |
| ·         *Isolation or environmental deprivation for extended periods* |
| ·         *Monoclonal antibody raising in mice* |
| **8** | ***Death As An Endpoint*** |
| This category only applies in those rare cases where the death of the animal is a planned part of the procedures and animals die but are not euthanased. Where predictive signs of death have been determined *and* euthanasia is carried out before significant suffering occurs, they may be placed in category 6 or 7. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·         *Lethality testing (including LD50, LC50)* |
| **It does not include:** death by natural causes; animals which are euthanased as part of the project; animals which are euthanased if something goes wrong; animals euthanased for dissection or for use as museum specimens; or accidental deaths.  |
| **9** | ***Production of genetically modified animals*** |
| This category is intended to allow for the variety of procedures which occur during the **production** of genetically modified animals. As animals in this category may be subjected to both minor *and* major physiological challenges *and* surgical procedures, this category reflects the varied nature of the procedures carried out. It effectively includes ALL animals used in GM production other than the final progeny which are used in a different category of procedure. |
| ***Examples*** |
| ·         *Initial breeding animals for GM production* |
| ·         *Animals culled as part of the GM production process* |

**Animal research ethics guidance documents available from REDI**

* ACEC Frequently Asked Questions
* ACEC Amendment Guidelines
* ACEC Species, Purpose and Procedure Descriptions
* Alternatives to Using Animals
* Tips for Improving the Quality of Your ACEC Application

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**Guidance on Data Storage and Retention Questions in the NEAF**