

Standard Operating Procedure for Analgesic Card Audits

Relief of postoperative pain is mandated by PHS policy as indicated in, **The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals** and is a major objective of all individuals involved in laboratory animal medicine. "The Guide," states that animals experiencing more than momentary or slight pain or distress require appropriate sedation, analgesia or anesthesia unless suitable, scientific justification is provided. Assessment of pain and distress in animals can be difficult, challenging and subjective. As such, and in accordance with the U S Government Principles for Utilization and Care of Vertebrate Animals Used in Testing, Research, and Training, unless the contrary is established, it should be considered that procedures that cause pain or distress in humans may also cause similar effects in animals. The Attending Veterinarian is responsible for ensuring that adequate anesthesia, analgesia or sedation is provided.

To help our institution provide assurance to PHS and/or any external oversight agencies that proper pain management is being carried out, UCAR will perform monthly audits of the provision of pre-emptive and post-