

**SEATTLE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH INSTITUTE
OPERATING POLICIES / PROCEDURES**

DEPARTMENT: Institutional Animal Care and Use
Committee
POLICY NUMBER: IACUC-026
REPLACES:
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 10, 2005
REVISION DATE: November 6, 2008
POSTED FROM:

TITLE: Criteria For Review Of Protocols Involving Food Or Fluid Restriction

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this policy is to establish a uniform method for review of animal use protocols involving food or fluid restriction.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

- 026-1 Restriction for research purposes must be scientifically justified, and use the least amount of restriction that will achieve the proposed scientific objective.
- 026-2 A program must be established, with veterinarian consultation, to monitor physiologic or behavioral indexes (including criteria such as weight loss or state of hydration) for temporary or permanent removal of an animal from the experimental protocol.
- 026-3 The *Guide* offers the following guidelines for monitoring animals on food or fluid restriction:
- 026-3.1 Daily recording of fluid or feed intake;
- 026-3.2 Daily recording of body weight;
- 026-3.3 Animals on fluid restriction should be offered a suitable balanced rodent diet as food consumption may decrease with fluid restriction;
- 026-3.4 In the case of conditioned-response protocols, the use of a highly preferred food or fluid as positive reinforcement instead of restriction is recommended.

REFERENCES:

National Research Council, "The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals".
National Academy Press; Washington DC. 1996.

Submitting Office: Office of Animal Care

Approved by:

\s\ Anne Clancy, IACUC Chairperson, October 17, 2007

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