

GUIDELINES REGARDING THE USE OF EXPIRED PRODUCTS

PURPOSE:

This policy serves to outline situations in which the use of expired products may be appropriate, and under what circumstances these materials are not to be used.

GUIDELINES:

USDA Policy states the use of expired materials without justification is considered inadequate veterinary care [9 CFR, 3, 3.110]. Since it is recognized that in some specific situations there may be a rationale to use expired materials, the IACUC has established the following guidelines for the conditional use of expired medical products.

All expired materials must be clearly and individually labeled as “Expired - for acute use only” and kept together in a labeled area physically separate from all other medical materials and drugs.

GUIDELINES FOR SURVIVAL STUDIES

Expired medical materials may not be used on animals in survival studies. Requested exceptions to this policy must be included in the animal use protocol, along with the scientific justification for the use of expired materials. IACUC approval must be granted prior to use. It is never acceptable to use outdated anesthetics, analgesics, antibiotics or emergency drugs in any case.

NON-SURVIVAL STUDIES

Expired medical materials such as wraps and sutures may only be used on anesthetized research animals and the animals may not recover from the anesthetic procedure. Anesthesia for these terminal studies must be induced and maintained using current, non-expired drugs.