

Date Adopted: 9/24/21

Effective Date: 9/24/21

Last Review Date: 9/24/21

Revision History:

Prolonged Restraint

Definitions:

Physical Restraint

Physical Restraint is defined as “the use of manual or mechanical means to limit some or all of an animal’s normal movement for the purpose of examination, collection of samples, drug administration, therapy, or experimental manipulation” (The Guide, 2011). Such restraint may cause distress and/or pain if not carried out properly and animals should be acclimated to reduce discomfort. Systems that do not limit an animal’s ability to make normal postural adjustments (i.e. tether system) should be used whenever possible.

Purpose:

The Guide does not define “prolonged restraint”, and therefore tasks the IACUC with defining what constitutes such restraint. The purpose of this Guideline is to define prolonged restraint at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

Guidelines:

Category 1: Animal restraint in this category permits the animal little or no freedom of movement of the body trunk or limbs and does not permit any change in body position. This form of restraint will be considered “prolonged” when it exceeds 30 minutes in duration.

Category 2: Animal restraint in this category allows considerable freedom of movement of limbs and the animal can change position (e.g. sitting to standing, but may not be able to turn around). This form of restraint will be considered “prolonged” when it exceeds 3 hours in duration.

References:

Animal Welfare Act as amended (7 U.S.C. §§ 2131 et. seq.) Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Subchapter A, Section 2.31

National Research Council (2011). Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. The National Academies Press: Washington, D.C.

Public Health Service Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW). 1985. Rev. 2015.