# **POLICY ON ADOPTION OF LABORATORY ANIMALS**

Johns Hopkins University Research Animal Resources (RAR[)](http://www.upenn.edu/animalwelfare) has developed the following policy and procedures for adoption of laboratory animals (excluding non-human primates and exotic animals). University-owned laboratory animals that have no persistent health or behavior concerns may be adopted by people who work at Johns Hopkins University or at an affiliate of Johns Hopkins University or may be released to a non-profit rescue organization that has been screened by the Johns Hopkins University Attending Veterinarian or his or her designee.

# **ADOPTION ELIGIBILITY**

• The Attending Veterinarian will make the final determination whether the animal would make a reasonable adoption candidate based on the research history and physical examination.

• The animal must be in good health and of acceptable behavior as determined by the Attending Veterinarian or his or her designee.

• Animals must be adopted as pets and subsequently must not be sold, used for food, or used as working animals.

• Potential adopters will be screened by the Attending Veterinarian, or his or her designee, for their suitability, qualifications, and knowledge of appropriate care required for the animal.

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# **VETERINARY EXAMINATION**

• A complete physical examination will be performed by the Attending Veterinarian or his or her designee.

• Diagnostic testing and/or appropriate vaccinations and surgical sterilization will be ordered and administered prior to adoption, as deemed necessary by the Attending Veterinarian or his or her designee.

# **TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP**

• At the time of adoption, a note will be made in the animal’s record and Final Disposition form, if applicable, that the animal was adopted out as a private pet.

• The Johns Hopkins University Animal Adoption Agreement will be signed by the Attending Veterinarian and the adopter and copied. One copy will be provided to the adopter and the original will be retained by RAR.

• A medical record statement of the examination and test results will be provided to the adopter.

• The adopter is responsible for any and all future veterinary and behavioral care as may be required.

• All records of the adoption will be maintained by RAR for at least three (3) years.