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Written by:	**	**
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Distribution	RAR/ACUC	

VC – 1: Large Animal Clinical Call Submissions

Purpose: This SOP is intended to describe the manner in which requests for veterinary assistance ("clinical calls") are placed, conducted by the veterinary staff or veterinary technician, and later assessed for a satisfactory outcome. All animals at the University are expected to receive prompt, appropriate, and adequate veterinary care for abnormal conditions or disease, which occur naturally, or may be a result of the research being performed on the animal. "Clinical call" situations must be distinguished from urgent husbandry problems that affect animal health and welfare but do not require corrective actions by a veterinarian

Personnel Responsibilities:

RAR Technicians- Assess animals for general health and signs of illness during daily health checks and during cage cleaning/feeding. Evaluate severity of cases according to training and interaction with RAR vets. Place emergency calls on clinical cases of serious illness (see below).

RAR Supervisors or Designated Team Lead – Assist RAR Technicians in addressing clinical calls, if needed, especially being the liaison between the RAR Technician and the veterinary team. Performs brief once daily observations of all animals. Ensures RAR Technicians follow this SOP.

Veterinary Technicians, RAR technicians, and RAR Supervisors – clinical concerns are communicated to the veterinary resident and/or faculty veterinarian assigned to the facility via cell phone (call or text). Non-emergency calls may also be communicated via email. Emergencies are reported directly via phone call to the veterinarian’s cell phone. If the primary responsible veterinarian cannot be contacted, the person will call other veterinarians until someone is reached, or physically go to an area to find a veterinarian in person. Veterinary cell phone #'s are listed in all anterooms or on doors to animal holding rooms and on the supervisor’s door, as well as in satellite lab procedure and operating rooms. **Outside of business hours**, the on-call vet cell phone is called for all clinical concerns. This number is also posted as described above.

Clinical Veterinarian – Responds to clinical calls and coordinates treatments as needed. Documents assessments, treatments, and follow-up in each animal’s individual clinical record.

Director, Lab Animal Management – Ensures RAR Supervisors and technicians adhere to this SOP. Coordinates training sessions with veterinarians and the ACUC Office on clinical disease recognition for husbandry staff. Reviews all deviations to this process and implement corrective action or SOP revision accordingly.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the JHU Animal Care and Use Program document “**SOP on Large Animal Clinical Call Submissions**” and I will follow this procedure. I agree to bring any deviations in this procedure to the attention of my supervisor/GPS Working Group.

Name (Print)

Date

Signature