What is AAALAC?

The Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC) International is a private, non-profit organization that promotes the humane treatment of animals in science through voluntary accreditation and assessment of programs.

Questions?
OAWA: 936-8163
DAC: 322-2231
VEHS: 322-2057

Top Ten Things You Should Do To Prepare For the 2017 Site Visit
#1 Be familiar with your IACUC-approved protocols!
- Make sure everyone with exposure to animals and/or their tissues is enrolled in the Vanderbilt Animal Care and Use Occupational Health Program

#2 Designate a single “point of contact”

#3 First impressions are important
- Clean and organize lab
- Discard expired anesthetics, analgesics and euthanasia drugs
- Be familiar with the IACUC Policy on Expired Medical Materials in Research and how to discard DEA controlled substances

#4 Record Keeping
- Make sure records are up to date;
- Readily available; and
- Reflect what is in the IACUC approved protocol

#5 Be familiar with institutional policies and standard operating procedures (SOPs) pertaining to experiments performed in your laboratory.

#6 Comply with SOP on Rodent Anesthesia, Surgery and Analgesia
- Adequate surgical training must address aseptic technique and atraumatic surgical technique
- Post-procedural care must be described and followed per the approved IACUC protocol
- Surgical area should be distinctly separate from surgical prep area
- Chemical sterilant’s are acceptable when manufacturer’s recommendations are followed; instruments must be rinsed with sterile saline or sterile water before use
- Surgical incision site and surrounding area must be prepared by removing all hair
- Use of depilatory cream must be described in protocol

#7 Animal Transportation
- Plan ahead; make sure personnel are familiar with the appropriate manner and routes for transporting animals
- Avoid visual observation of animals by the public

#8 Review and comply with personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements for your species and facilities
- Follow all posted PPE requirements when handling animals and working within the facilities
- Soiled lab coats, scrubs, etc. must not be worn home

#9 Know the Risks Associated Working with Hazardous Agents
- Be familiar with the risks involved and requirements for minimizing them
- Know how to protect yourself, coworkers, and DAC staff
- Know how to report/respond to accidents

#10 Make sure each person can describe the training they have received; provide documentation as appropriate

For policy information, please visit us @ https://www4.vanderbilt.edu/acup/iacuc/