ANIMAL ETHICS PROCEDURE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Review

Valid from	29 August 2024
Valid to	29 August 2026

Contents

Introduction

This procedure gives effect to:

a) The requirements of the Australian Code of the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018; and
b) The requirements of the Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes 8th edition 2013 ('Animal Code').
c) The applicable State and Territory legislation, including the Animal Research Act 1985 (NSW) and in Queensland the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001 and associated regulations.

and is intended to ensure compliance with all applicable legislation, regulations, guidelines, policy and other requirements.

This procedure applies to all activities overseen by the Ethics Committee involving the care and use of animals for research purposes.

Definitions

Activity	Any action or group of actions undertaken that involves the care and use of animals, including acquisition, transport, breeding, housing and husbandry of those animals. An activity may involve one or more procedures. Activities are described in an application to the animal ethics committee.
Adverse Event	Any event that has a negative impact on the wellbeing of an animal.
AEC Approval	Approval by an AEC for three years, subject to the submission of Annual Reports.

Animal	Any:
	• live non-human vertebrate (e.g. fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, domestic animals, purpose-bred animals, livestock, wildlife);
	• cephalopod (e.g. octopus, cuttlefish, squid);
	• animal at early stages of development, including:
	  • embryonic and foetal forms of mammals;
	  • birds and reptiles that have progressed beyond half the gestation or incubation period;
	  • fish and amphibia once they can feed independently; and
	  • cephalopods at the point when they hatch.
	Note: If conducting research or teaching in Victoria, the definition also includes live adult decapod crustaceans (e.g. lobsters, crayfish, crabs).

Animal care staff	Individuals responsible for providing general care of an animal. This includes, but is not limited to: • laboratory animal service staff; • animal technicians; • animal attendants; • technical officers; • farm managers • farm hands; and • veterinary technicians.
Animal Ethics Committee (AEC)	A committee constituted in accordance with the terms of reference and membership laid down in the Code.
Animal Facility	Any place where animals are kept or bred.

Animal research authority	An authority issued by the AEC to any individual to carry out animal research for a particular project. Unless otherwise specified, this authority remains in place for 12 months from the issue date.
Animal tissue	Any biological material obtained from an animal, including tissues or fluids. E.g., skin, blood, urine, saliva, hair, bones, tumour and other biopsy specimens.
Category A member	A person with: • qualifications in veterinary science that are recognised for registration as a veterinary surgeon in Australia; and • experience relevant to the research facility's activities or the ability to acquire relevant knowledge.
Category B member	A suitably qualified person: • with substantial and recent experience in the use of animals for scientific purposes relevant to the work of the AEC; and • who holds a higher degree in research or equivalent experience.
Category C member	A person: • with established experience in furthering the welfare of animals; and • who is not currently involved in the care and use of animals for scientific purposes.
Category D member	A person: • who has never been involved in the use of animals in scientific or teaching activities, either in their employment or after their undergraduate education; and • must not fit the requirements of any other category.
Chairperson	The Chairperson of the AEC
Chief Investigator	The lead staff or affiliate investigator on a research project
High-impact procedure	A procedure which has the potential to cause significant harm or distress to an animal.
Humane endpoint	The point, defined by one or more clinical criteria, at which an animal is experiencing an adverse event or has developed a degree of pain or distress that requires it to be euthanised, regardless of whether the scientific aim has been met. Note: A humane endpoint is chosen with aim of protecting animal wellbeing
Investigator	Any person who uses animals for scientific purposes, including: • researchers; • teachers; • students; • product testers; • environmental testers; • producers of biological products; and • wildlife surveys
Minor modification	A change to an approved project where the proposed change is not likely to cause harm to the animals, including pain and distress. Note: Examples of a minor modification include: • change in personnel or funding; • time extension up to 12 months, not exceeding 4-year project approval; • addition of a new research location but using the same project methodology; • additional animals of the same species/strain <10% of the number originally approved
Modification	A change to an approved project that still meets the aims and objectives of the original application and does not deviate dramatically from the original species, strains and procedures being performed.
Monitoring	Measures to assess the well-being of animals in accordance with the Animal Code.
Morbidity	the state or condition of being near death.
Project	An activity or group of activities that form a discrete piece of work that aims to achieve a scientific purpose.
Unexpected Adverse Event	An event that may have a negative impact on the well-being of animals and was not foreshadowed in the approved project or activity.
Wellbeing	An animal is in a positive mental state and is able to:

	• achieve successful biological function; • have positive experiences; • express innate behaviours; and • respond to and cope with potentially adverse conditions.

Ethics Committee Conduct

Responsibilities

Institutional accountability and scope

i. The Animal Ethics Committee (AEC) is established by and accountable to EpiVets Australia Pty Ltd (the institution).
ii. Primary responsibility: The AEC's primary responsibility is to ensure, on behalf of EpiVets, that all activities relating to the care and use of animals are conducted in compliance with the Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes 8th edition 2013 (Animal Code).
iii. Legislative compliance: The AEC is responsible for ensuring activities comply with: the Australian Code of the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018; and the Animal Code, the Animal Research Act 1985 (NSW) and the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001 (Qld); (ii) any other relevant legislation, guidelines and policies for the jurisdiction(s) in which the activity occurs.

Core functions of the AEC

i. Review applications for projects and approve only those that are ethically acceptable and conform to the Animal Code.
ii. Review applications for activities associated with the care and management of animals in facilities (e.g., breeding, husbandry) and approve only those activities that are ethically acceptable and conform to the Animal Code.
iii. Conduct follow-up review of approved projects/activities and allow continuation only where they remain ethically acceptable and conform to the Animal Code.
iv. Monitor the care and use of animals, including housing conditions, practices and procedures in facilities and field sites.
v. Take appropriate actions regarding unexpected adverse events to ensure animal wellbeing and, where necessary, suspend or withdraw approval.
vi. Take appropriate actions regarding non-compliance, including referral to the institution where necessary and ensuring appropriate follow-up.
vii. Approve guidelines for the care and use of animals on behalf of the institution when referred by the institution.
viii. Provide advice and recommendations to the institution regarding animal care and use and strategies to maintain Animal Code compliance.
ix. Report on its operations to the institution via a written annual report to the governing body and meet with institutional leadership as needed to review AEC operations.

The AEC must operate consistently with the Animal Code and this procedure.

Membership

The composition of the AEC must be consistent with the requirements of the Animal Code – that is at least 4 persons, 1 from each of the following categories:

Category A—a person with qualifications in veterinary science that are recognised for registration as a veterinary surgeon in Australia, and with experience relevant to the institution's activities or the ability to acquire relevant knowledge.

Category B—a suitably qualified person with substantial and recent experience in the use of animals for scientific purposes relevant to the institution and the business of the AEC. This must include possession of a higher degree in research or equivalent experience. If the business of the AEC relates to the use of animals for teaching only, a teacher with substantial and recent experience may be appointed.

Category C—a person with demonstrable commitment to, and established experience in, furthering the welfare of animals, who is not employed by or otherwise associated with the institution, and who is not currently involved in the care and use of animals for scientific purposes. Veterinarians with specific animal welfare interests and experience may meet the requirements of this category. While not representing an animal welfare organisation, the person should, where possible, be selected on the basis of active membership of, and endorsement by, such an organisation.

Category D—a person not employed by or otherwise associated with the institution and who has never been involved in the use of animals in scientific or teaching activities, either in their employment or beyond their undergraduate education. Category D members should be viewed by the wider community as bringing a completely independent view to the AEC and must not fit the requirements of any other category.

Upon appointing a member to an AEC, the member is informed of:

1. The commencement and end date for their appointment.
   i. the responsibilities and confidentiality requirements of the role; and
   ii. that they will be indemnified for liabilities arising in the course of bona fide conduct in the role.

Upon being appointed to an AEC members must provide a written undertaking that they will:

   i. keep all matters before the committee confidential; and
2. Disclose and appropriately manage any conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during their membership.

The appointment of any AEC member may be terminated by written notice if

   i. it is necessary to do so for the proper and effective functioning of the AEC;
   ii. the person is no longer qualified or fit to serve on the AEC; or
3. The person has failed to carry out their duties as an AEC member.

Members may resign from their membership by providing at least two months' written notice to the Chairperson.

Appropriate training will be provided to members, including induction training for newly appointed members and opportunities for members to attend training appropriate to their AEC tenure.

Meetings

Agendas will be distributed prior to the meeting date, and members will be given the opportunity to review each application prior to the meeting.

The quorum for an AEC meeting is achieved when:

4. The chairperson is present.
   i. at least one member from each category is present; and
   ii. at least one-third of the members present are categories C and D members.

With permission from the Chairperson, non-members may attend meetings to assist the AEC to function effectively.

AEC meetings may be held:

a) in person at a single venue; or
b) at two or more venues simultaneously, using any technology that gives members a reasonable opportunity to participate.

In exceptional circumstances, the Chairperson may approve consideration and approval of urgent matters by circulation. In this case, the AEC must review and ratify any decisions made by circulation at the next meeting.

The Chairperson may cancel a meeting but should reschedule it to occur within 10 working days.

The AEC will meet at least 4 times per year. Additional meetings may be scheduled if necessary.

Meetings and discussions at meetings will be confidential. Visitors other than investigators must agree to maintain confidentiality before entering the meeting room.

The identity of the visitor and their agreement to maintain confidentiality must be recorded in the minutes. Visitors who do not agree to maintain confidentiality must not be permitted to observe or take part in a meeting.

The AEC may consult or seek advice from experts to assist in the review of an application, subject to such experts agreeing to maintain confidentiality of the material.

Experts must declare, and appropriately manage, any conflicts of interest.

As far as possible, the AEC should reach decisions on the basis of consensus. Where consensus cannot be reached after a reasonable effort to resolve differences, the AEC should explore ways of modifying the project or activity with the investigator that may lead to consensus.

If consensus is still not achieved, the AEC should only proceed to a majority decision after members have been allowed time to review their positions, followed by further discussion.

If a vote is required, the vote including numbers for and against (and, where applicable, numbers of members abstaining from voting) must be noted in the minutes.

Meeting Outcomes

The AEC must make one of the following decisions in relation to each ethics item.

i. Approve the ethics item as ethically acceptable, with or without conditions;
ii. Approve the ethics item in principle, subject to modifications or clarifications,
iii. Defer a decision pending clarification or further information;
iv. Decline the ethics item; or
v. Note the ethics item.

Note: An investigator whose application is declined may choose to rewrite the proposal and resubmit.

The applicant will be notified in writing of the AEC decision within 10 working days of the meeting.

If approval is granted, an Animal Research Authority (ARA) will be issued to the chief investigator and coinvestigators. The ARA must include:

i. the title of the project.
ii. a unique AEC identification number.
iii. a plain language summary of the project.
iv. the name of the chief investigator.

v. names of authorised personnel.
vi. the date of the start and expiry of the AEC approval.
vii. the date of the start and expiry of the ARA approval.
viii. approved animal use.
ix. designated land on which the project will be conducted.
x. confirmation that all documents have been reviewed and approved by the AEC.
xi. any conditions of the AEC approval.

Unless a shorter period is specified, an ARA remains in force for 12 months from the date on which it was issued.

If applicants are required to provide further information in support of their ethics item, the notification must:

i. specify the information required
ii. state the reasons for the request; and
iii. where appropriate, refer to the Animal Code or other relevant legislation and guidelines.

If an application is declined, the notification must invite the chief investigator to contact the Chairperson to discuss the outcome.

Conflicts of Interest

AEC members must declare any conflicts of interest verbally, or in writing

i. at the time of their appointment; and
ii. at any time, they become aware of a further conflict of interest during their tenure.

The Chairperson must call for declarations of conflicts of interest relating to any matters on the agenda at the beginning of every meeting and record them in the minutes.

The Chairperson is responsible for determining, in consultation with other members of the AEC, the appropriate manner of managing any declared conflicts.

A member with a conflict of interest must not participate in either the discussion of, or decision about, the relevant agenda item.

In appropriate circumstances, the AEC may permit a member with a conflict of interests to remain in the meeting room during the initial discussions to answer questions. Such circumstances include situations where the conflict of interests is minor.

If an expert adviser declares a conflict of interests, the Chairperson will determine the appropriate manner of managing the declared conflict. If an expert adviser's conflict of interest is declared or identified after a report is received, the Chairperson must determine if the matter declared renders the report unacceptable.

Records and reporting

The following records of AEC activities will be maintained:

i. Agendas and meeting minutes
ii. Correspondence
iii. Membership details

Meeting minutes will be reviewed by the Chairperson and ratified at the next AEC meeting.

A register of each application received and reviewed will be maintained, including:

i. project number
ii. date entered
iii. requested start and end dates
iv. requested animal types, animal numbers and procedures
v. project title
vi. outcome of review
vii. names of investigators
viii. documents submitted for review
ix. conditions of ethics approval of the activity

Reports to the institution (annual operations report)

The AEC will submit a written report on its operations at least annually to EpiVets' governing body. The report will summarise volumes and types of projects/activities assessed and their outcomes; facilities for animal care and use; training provided; administrative/resource matters; and any issues that may affect institutional compliance, including recommendations.

Reports to regulators

The AEC will provide an annual compliance report to the NSW Department of Primary Industries. Where activities are conducted in Queensland, EpiVets (and/or the registrant) will ensure compliance with reporting obligations under the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001 (Qld). The AEC will support the collection and collation of required data and provide information on request to the relevant Queensland authority.

Public availability

The AEC terms of reference will be made publicly available on the EpiVets Australia website and include the AEC's institutional accountability, mechanisms of reporting and membership categories, consistent with the Code.

Reviews and Approvals

When a review is required

The AEC must review an activity involving animals when:

i. animals are to be used for research purposes; or
ii. the activity is associated with the care and management of animals in facilities, except where the activity is part of standard animal husbandry for the farm.

The AEC must review an activity involving only animal tissues when:

i. animal tissues are to be used for research purposes; and
ii. animals were alive when the tissues were removed.

Where the tissue was removed as part of routine animal care, not related to research, this review can be a notification of tissue sample use, the AEC does not need to review an activity involving only animal tissues or cadavers where:

i. the tissues were collected from animals which were already dead; and
ii. the animals were not killed for the purposes of teaching or research; or
iii. the animals were killed:
    - for a purpose already approved by an AEC; and

- in a manner approved by the AEC.

AEC Application

Applications are submitted on **EpiVets AEC application form** for committee review.

The application must contain sufficient detail of all activities relating to the care and use of animals including, but not limited to, animal:

i. acquisition;
ii. transport;
iii. breeding;
iv. housing; and
v. husbandry.

Modifications to an existing project

No modification to an existing project may be implemented without a further AEC approval. Modifications must be submitted on **EpiVets AEC modification form**

Suspension or withdrawal of approval

If an activity or animal facility is deemed in breach of the approved project, Animal Code, Animal Research Act 1985 (NSW), the Queensland the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001or any other relevant legislation and policies, or animal wellbeing is compromised beyond that described in the approved project, the activity should be suspended and referred to the AEC.

If the AEC believes that an activity or animal facility may be in breach of the approved project, Animal Code, Animal Research Act 1985 (NSW), the Queensland the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001or or any other relevant legislation and policies, the AEC must:

i. take action to protect animal wellbeing.
ii. direct that any activity that may adversely affect animal well-being cease immediately.
iii. promptly address the issues in consultation with the investigators or facility managers.
iv. if necessary:
    - suspend or withdraw the relevant AEC approval; and or
    - refer the issue to another appropriate person or authority for action
v. implement appropriate follow-up action, which may include:
    - increased monitoring.
    - modification of the activity or animal facility; or
    - further training of investigators involved in procedures or animal care staff

If an approval is suspended or withdrawn, the AEC Chairperson must inform the chief investigator or facility manager; and the chief investigator or facility manager must promptly:

i. suspend all relevant activities; and
ii. make arrangements to meet the needs of the animals.

If AEC approval is withdrawn, the activity may only recommence after a fresh application is submitted and further approval given.

If AEC approval or animal facility approval is suspended, the activity must not resume until:

i. the activity or facility has been modified to provide sufficient protection of animal wellbeing; and
ii. the AEC has reviewed and approved the modification.

The AEC Chairperson will inform the chief investigator or facility manager in writing of:

i. any decision to suspend or withdraw approval;

ii. any decision to approve a modified project and thereby remove a suspension.

Monitoring

AEC Monitoring

The AEC is responsible for monitoring the care and use of animals used in teaching and research. Monitoring may be undertaken by any or all of the following:

i. inspecting animals.
ii. inspecting animal facilities.
iii. reviewing procedures.
iv. monitoring records; and
v. reviewing annual and completion reports.

AEC Inspections

The AEC will determine the frequency and timing of inspections. Inspections may be announced or unannounced.

Where possible, a category C or D member should also participate in animal facility inspections.

Inspections of remote sites, or where access is difficult, may be performed by a person nominated by the AEC and can be facilitated or corroborated with photographic or video imaging.

An AEC inspection should include but is not limited to, reviewing:

i. that the chief investigator has maintained required documents in the animal facility or when undertaking fieldwork, including:
    - a copy of the ARA.
    - emergency contact details in case of an animal emergency.
    - monitoring sheets.
ii. species-specific condition and suitability of animal enclosures (e.g. pens, cages and containers), and that they are correctly labelled with the:
    - chief investigator's name.
    - number of animals.
    - dates of birth, if provided.
    - arrival date of each animal in the enclosure;
    - sex; and
    - strain
iii. animal facility maintenance, including:
    - security.
    - physical state of repair; and
    - adequate space for the work being performed,
iv. appropriate environmental factors for species, that are checked and recorded daily; and
v. animal welfare, environmental enrichment, care and husbandry.

The AEC may inspect the conduct of procedures in AEC-approved projects. During an inspection, the AEC or its nominee may direct the immediate suspension of a project or use of an animal facility, until further review by the AEC.

Records of inspections must be maintained. Records must include:

i. the names of those in attendance.
ii. observations.
iii. identified problems.
iv. recommendations; and
v. outcomes.

The AEC must review all reports of facility inspections and procedures inspections and resolve to:

i. adopt the report, with no further action required.
ii. require further clarification, additional information or modification, which must be addressed to the satisfaction of the AEC.
iii. direct that animals are moved to an alternate site until rectifications are made; or
iv. perform a follow-up inspection of the facility or procedure.

Annual and completion reports

The chief investigator or delegate involved in a project must submit to the AEC:
i. annual reports at least 4 weeks prior to the ARA expiring; and
ii. a completion report at the completion of a project

The AEC will review all annual reports and completion reports, and will resolve to:
i. adopt the report, with no further action required.
ii. request further clarification, additional information or modification to the ethics project, which must be addressed to the satisfaction of the AEC; or
iii. identify any immediate harm or risk of harm to animals. In this instance, the AEC may suspend or withdraw ethics approval for the project; or require further action to rectify any issues or risk.

The person submitting the report will be notified of the AEC's decision within 10 working days of the meeting.

Animal Wellbeing Monitoring Plans

All investigators involved in a project must monitor the wellbeing of the animals involved.

The chief investigator has ultimate responsibility and must:
i. Develop a project-specific monitoring plan
ii. Include the monitoring plan in the application to the AEC, and
iii. Distribute the monitoring plan to all investigators involved in the project.

The monitoring plan should include the following:
i. Animals must be monitored twice weekly, with records maintained.
ii. General environmental conditions and food/water provisions must be monitored daily and records maintained
iii. Consideration must be given to the following:
    - Animal-specific details such as species, strain, phenotype, sex and age
    - Project-specific details such as types of procedures, level of impact at each stage, housing type and stocking rate or density
    - Availability of resources such as remote monitoring systems and telemetry, anaesthetic monitors and handling equipment
    - Whether different procedures require different monitoring schedules, such as acclimation, pre-research, post-surgical monitoring, anaesthetic monitoring
    - Scientific endpoints
    - Humane endpoints
    - Behaviour
    - Body weight and condition assessment
    - Physical appearance
    - Physiological or clinical parameters
iv. Each animal must be
    - Closely and individually monitored to detect clinical signs and behavioural changes indicative of pain or distress
    - Physically examined during and after high-impact procedures
    - Monitored continuously after surgery until they can move independently without falling
    - Monitored for the duration of their stay in a facility
    - Monitored with a mix of objective and subjective criteria

The chief investigator is responsible for:

i. Certifying that investigators working on the project are qualified and competent to perform their duties.
ii. Providing adequate training to investigators.
iii. Developing specific monitoring sheets if required
iv. Keeping appropriate records
v. Making these records available to the AEC, external auditors or relevant regulatory bodies.

Humane Endpoints

An animal's involvement in an activity must end when any of the following occur:

i. a scientific endpoint has been reached;
ii. a humane endpoint has been reached;
iii. there is no way the scientific outcome can be met;
iv. the animal develops severe pain or discomfort that does not respond to analgesia, unless prior approval has been obtained from the AEC for an exemption from this requirement in relation to a particular approved project; or
v. the animal develops a morbidity that:
    - is unexpected;
    - is not part of the project; and
    - cannot be treated without interfering with the scientific outcome.

The chief investigator must specify humane endpoints in the ethics application for AEC review. These must address:

i. expected adverse events; and
ii. any unplanned or unexpected adverse events that may cause pain or distress.

If death is a likely outcome from the use of animals in an activity, then a pre-terminal humane endpoint must always be chosen in place of death or morbidity.
The following humane endpoints should not be exceeded unless strong justification is provided in an ethics application and approval is granted:

i. weight loss of 15% from baseline weight;
ii. ulceration of the skin, including the skin over tumours;
iii. tumours that reach a size greater than $1cm^3$ in rodent tumour induction studies; or
iv. an inability to move, such that the animal cannot eat or drink.

Adverse Events

Where an adverse event occurs, an investigator must:

i. take timely and appropriate action; and
ii. report it immediately to the chief investigator.

In the case of expected adverse events, investigators must follow the strategies and procedures specified in their approved project to avoid or minimise harm, including pain and distress.

In the case of unexpected adverse events, investigators must:

i. take prompt action to alleviate pain and distress and remove any obvious hazards;
ii. If necessary, animals must be humanely killed without delay;
iii. If necessary, immediately contact a veterinarian. Prompt veterinary treatment, autopsies, testing or risk minimisation strategies may be required;
iv. notify:
    a) the chief investigator;
    b) animal care staff, to confirm that the care and housing of the animal is appropriate; and

c) the AEC via the **Unexpected Adverse Events Report Form**

Investigators must prioritise animal well-being over:

i. reaching the scientific endpoint; or
ii. the continuation or completion of the project.

If an adverse event is not listed in the approved project, or the attrition rate for the adverse event is exceeded, the chief investigator or an investigator listed in the approved project must submit an Adverse Event Report to the AEC:

i. no later than 48 hours after the incident; or
ii. no later than 24 hours after the incident, where an adverse event is serious.
iii. This includes cases where the investigation or treatment remains ongoing at the time of submission of the Adverse Event Report.

If an unexpected adverse event is due to an issue with the facility, such as a power failure, the facility manager must submit an Adverse Event Report to the AEC. After reviewing an Adverse Event Report, the AEC must make one of the following decisions:

i. That the actions taken and subsequent management of the event are satisfactory and no further action will be required.
ii. To require further clarification, additional information or modification to the projects which must be addressed to the satisfaction of the AEC. This may include requesting additional monitoring by the investigators or the Animal Welfare Veterinarian.
iii. That the actions taken were inappropriate or insufficient to adequately alleviate immediate harm or risk to animals. That is, a breach of ethics approval or the Animal Code, Animal Research Act 1985 (NSW), or any other relevant legislation and policies has occurred. In this instance the AEC may suspend or withdraw ethics approval for the research.

The AEC must notify the chief investigator or facility manager in writing of the AEC decision within 10 working days of the meeting.
If the adverse event relates to an emergency with risk to humans as well as animals, the wellbeing of people takes priority over animals.

Investigating Adverse Events

The chief investigator must investigate any event which

i. has the capacity to affect the wellbeing of:
   a) a significant number of animals remaining on the project or in a facility;
   b) the animal facility; or
   c) the environment;
ii. occurs as a result of intentional cruelty, reckless behaviour, persistent negligence or misconduct; or
iii. may be considered a breach of legislation;

The chief investigator must inform the AEC of any such event within 24 hours of first becoming aware of it.
The investigation should:

i. determine the cause of the event;
ii. determine the necessary strategies and treatments to alleviate pain and distress of affected animals;
iii. assess the likelihood of recurrence;
iv. determine its relatedness to the project;
v. determine whether the project or facility must be modified to prevent future recurrence; and
vi. assess the response and actions taken.

In cases of unexpected death or euthanasia, the investigation should include a necropsy. This should be performed by an appropriately experienced person.

References and Links

i. Australian Code of the Responsible Conduct of Research 2018,
ii. Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes 8th edition 2013
iii. Animal Care and Protection Act 2001.
iv. *Animal Research Act 1985*.
v. *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986*