

## Standard Operating Procedure

SOP Number: **02-18-5804**  
Service: **Research**  
Operating Section: **IACUC**  
Unit: **LUC/HSD**  
Title: **Prolonged Restraint**

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**Purpose:**

To outline IACUC review and approval of all protocols requiring prolonged restraint.

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**Procedure:**

- 1) Animals are restrained for brief periods in most research applications. Prolonged restraint is defined as restraint in excess of 15 minutes.
- 2) Prolonged restraint is considered a category "D" request and is reviewed accordingly. To be approved, prolonged restraint must be:
  - a) Unequivocally justified in the IACUC protocol for scientific reasons by the principal investigator; or
  - b) Required as a veterinary procedure to protect the health or well-being of the animal as determined by the attending veterinarian.
- 3) The following are important guidelines to be considered when PI's request approval of prolonged restraint:
  - a) Restraint devices are not to be considered normal methods of housing.
  - b) Restraint devices should not be used simply as a convenience in handling or managing animals.
  - c) The period of restraint should be the minimum required to accomplish the research objectives.
  - d) Animals to be placed in restraint devices should be given training to adapt to the equipment and personnel.
  - e) Provision should be made for observation of the animal at appropriate intervals, as determined by the IACUC.
  - f) Veterinary care should be provided if lesions or illnesses associated with restraint are observed. The presence of lesions, illness, or severe behavioral change will likely necessitate temporary or permanent removal of the animal from restraint.

**OFFICE USE ONLY:**

<b>Responsible Official Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	
<b>QA Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	
<b>Version</b> #2	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Supersedes</b> #1	<b>Original Date</b> 04/18/02