

**GUIDANCE ON PROMPT REPORTING OF  
“ADVERSE EVENTS AND UNANTICIPATED PROBLEMS”**  
*(For use in reporting adverse events or unanticipated problems associated with laboratory animals)*

It is University policy that the procurement, housing, care and use of animals should conform to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals NIH 86-23 (the [Guide](#)) or succeeding Editions and other relevant federal policies and procedures. The policy applies to all student/faculty research and teaching whether funded from external or internal sources.

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare ([OLAW](#)) recognizes that there may be levels of morbidity and mortality in virtually any animal-related activity, including those associated with the care and use of animals in research, testing, and teaching that are not the result of violations of either the Policy or the *Guide*.

**OLAW offers the following examples of situations of “adverse events and unanticipated problems” associated with laboratory animals (other events may fall in this category but are not listed). Please consult with the Office of Sponsored Programs Administration for further guidance:**

- animal death or illness from spontaneous disease when appropriate quarantine, preventive medical, surveillance, diagnostic, and therapeutic procedures were in place and followed;
- animal death or injuries related to manipulations that fall within parameters described in the IACUC-approved protocol; or
- infrequent incidents of drowning or near-drowning of rodents in cages when it is determined that the cause was water valves jammed with bedding.

Please use the “Adverse Events & Unanticipated Problems” form to report all instances associated with laboratory animals to the JMU – IACUC office:

[http://www.jmu.edu/sponsprog/iacuc/form\\_adverse\\_event\\_reporting.doc](http://www.jmu.edu/sponsprog/iacuc/form_adverse_event_reporting.doc)

Send an electronic copy immediately to: [jmu\\_grants@jmu.edu](mailto:jmu_grants@jmu.edu) and send the completed and signed form to the Office of Sponsored Programs Administration (OSPA) – IACUC:

OSPA – IACUC @ MSC 5728 (campus mail)  
JMAC Building 6, Suite 26

Call x8-6872 for additional assistance.