

I. Institutional Policy

The Animal Welfare Act (AWA), Public Health Service (PHS) Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* require that all animals used in research be provided adequate veterinary care. The United States Department of Agriculture in their Animal Care Policies published in January of 2000, and updated in March 2011 state, "The use of expired medical materials such as drugs, fluids or sutures on regulated animals is not considered to be acceptable veterinary practice and does not constitute adequate veterinary care as required by the regulations promulgated in the Animal Welfare Act." To assure that animals utilized in research projects at the University of Illinois at Chicago receive adequate veterinary care, the Animal Care Committee has developed the following Policy:

Expired medical materials such as drugs, fluids and sutures can be used only in acute terminal procedures and only if the following three criteria are met:

1. The category of expired drugs does not include those that are used to relieve pain and/or distress (anesthetics, analgesics, etc.) or used in emergency situations for the resuscitation of animals.
2. The use of expired medical materials will not adversely affect the animal's well-being or compromise the validity of the scientific study.
3. The expired medical materials are labeled "expired" and maintained in a location separate from non-expired materials.

References:

- *USDA Animal Care Policies, Veterinary Care, Policy No. 3, March 2011.*
- *Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, Reprint, October, 2000.*
- *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, 8th Edition, National Academy Press, 2010.*