

Research Compliance

Compliance is an important issue when conducting research, whether or not it's funded by industry. There are four committees at Iowa State charged with ensuring compliance when research involves animals, humans, biohazards, or radiation. The following provides a brief overview of each committee.



Committee On Animal Care (COAC)

Chair: Michael Wannemuehler, mjwannem@iastate.edu, www.iacuc.iastate.edu/

The Animal Welfare Act is a federal law passed in 1966 to regulate animal research facilities, animal dealers and exhibitors, operators of animal auction sales, and carriers and intermediate handlers of animals in shipment. The act requires that research institutions have: 1) an effective Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee; 2) a veterinary care program in place; 3) all personnel using or caring for live animals be qualified to do so; and 4) a mechanism in place for reporting concerns regarding animal care and use at the institution.

All research involving the use of live vertebrate animals must be approved by the COAC.



Institutional Review Board (IRB)

Chair: Rick Sharp, rlsharp@iastate.edu,
http://grants-svr.admin.iastate.edu/vpr/humansubjects/contact_info.html

The Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is the federal agency that oversees human research compliance at all major research universities. Federal regulations require each institution conducting federally funded human subjects research to have an IRB to enforce compliance with federal regulations. Like most universities, ISU has agreed to follow federal guidelines for *all* human subjects research conducted on campus. Research using human subjects encompasses a broader range than many investigators realize. In addition to traditional biomedical and clinical studies, human subjects research includes social and behavioral research, such as surveys, exercise and nutrition studies, learning experiments, etc. Central to all human subjects research is the concept of beneficence, captured in risk/benefit assessments. Other important guidelines concern informed consent of the subjects and data confidentiality issues.

All research involving the use of humans must be approved by the IRB.



Biohazards and Public Health Committee (BPHC)

Chair: Chris Minion, fcminion@iastate.edu,
www.ehs.iastate.edu/biosafety/bioservices.htm#bphc

As required by the May 7, 1986, Federal Register and amendments, the BPHC serves as the institutional biosafety committee in all matters involving recombinant DNA studies. The BPHC also is responsible for reviewing the biological and public health and safety programs at Iowa State University and for setting policies that comply with federal, state, and local regulations and recommendations.



Radiation Safety

Chair: Daniel B. Bullen, dbullen@iastate.edu, www.ehs.iastate.edu/radiation/services.htm#rsc

Research projects that involve the use of radioactive material or radiation-producing devices must be authorized by the Iowa State University Radiation Safety Committee (RSC). The principal function of the RSC is to establish university policy for the safe use of radioactive materials and radiation-producing devices that comply with federal, state, and local regulations.

If you have any questions about this tip sheet or working with industry, please contact:

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