

## Contents

Purpose / Scope.....	1
Rationale.....	1
Policy Statements.....	2
General .....	2
Stock Breeding AUPs.....	2
Experimental Breeding AUPs.....	2
References .....	2
Revision History .....	3
Glossary.....	4

## Purpose / Scope

The objective of this policy is to outline criteria for determining whether a breeding-related Animal Use Protocol (AUP) should be considered as experimental versus breeding stock. For more information pertaining to Animal Use Protocols, go to the References section below.

## Rationale

The Canadian Council on Animal Care's *Instruction for Completion of the CCAC Animal Use Data Form (ACC)* outlines requirements for reporting animal use based on their assigned Purpose of Animal Use (PAU), as follows:

- PAU 0 – Breeding Colony/Stock
- PAU 1 – Studies of a fundamental nature in sciences relating to essential structure or function
- PAU 2 – Studies for medical purposes, including veterinary medicine, that related to human or animal diseases or disorders
- PAU 3 – Studies for regulatory testing of products for the protection of humans, animals, or the environment
- PAU 4 – Studies for the development of products or appliances for human or veterinary medicine
- PAU 5 – Education and training of individuals in post-secondary institutions

Additionally, each AUP is assigned only one PAU based upon the primary purpose of animal use; therefore, to ensure accurate reporting, as well as more effectively inform those responsible for providing animal care, breeding/stock colonies must be disclosed in AUPs that are distinct from any experimental activities.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> CCAC. *Instruction for Completion of the CCAC Animal Use Data Form (2023)*, P.4-5. Retrieved 21MAR2024 from: [https://ccac.ca/Documents/Assessment/Instructions\\_for\\_Completion\\_of\\_the\\_CCAC\\_Animal\\_Use\\_Data\\_Form-Nov\\_2023.pdf](https://ccac.ca/Documents/Assessment/Instructions_for_Completion_of_the_CCAC_Animal_Use_Data_Form-Nov_2023.pdf)

## Policy Statements

### General

Any breeding colony involving animal models with known phenotypes must be assigned a Category of Invasiveness (COI) commensurate with its degree of severity.

Any breeding colony involving the development of new animal models with unknown phenotypes must be assigned a Category of Invasiveness (COI) 'D' until such time that the phenotype has been clearly ascertained in conjunction with the Institutional Veterinarian.

- Once confirmed by an Institutional Veterinarian, the COI must be adjusted via an AUP Modification.

### Stock Breeding AUPs

A distinct 'Stock Breeding' AUP must be established for animals bred to maintain the propagation of experimental animals for future generations of animals and focused upon breeding line maintenance only.

- Associated procedures will be limited to breeding, animal identification and genotyping.
- Stock Breeding Purpose of Animal Use (PAU) will be '0.'

### Experimental Breeding AUPs

Breeding for the purpose of maintaining the colony may be included in the associated experimental AUP under the following conditions:

- the research question is focused upon gestation, parturition, or perinatal research, or
- the experimental purpose involves phenotyping (unknown phenotype = COI 'D'), or
- animals undergo no experimental procedure other than euthanasia.
  - For situations anticipated to change the animal welfare impact, e.g., aging animals, the ACC Chair will determine if a separate experimental AUP is most appropriate.

Experimental breeding Purpose of Animal Use (PAU) will be either '1-5.'

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## References

- Canadian Council on Animal Care
    - Instructions for Completion of the CCAC Animal Use Data Form (2023)
    - Terms of Reference for Animal Care Committees (2006)
  - University Senate MAPP 7.12
  - Animal Care Committee policies and procedures
    - Animal Use Protocols – POL-002-A
    - Annual Renewals – POL-002-B
    - AUP Modifications – POL-002-C
    - Pilot Studies – POL-002-D
    - AUP Review Processes for Principal Investigators (GUID-002)
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## Revision History

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b> <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	<b>Description of Changes</b>	<b>Author</b>
00	11-04-2024	Breeding colony content removed from POL-002-A	LT, LC, JM

## Glossary

For full terms and definitions, see the *AECP Glossary of Terms* on the [AECP Policies & Procedures](#) page of the Animal Care Committee's OWL Site.

**Animal Use Protocol (AUP)** - The Animal Care Committee's (ACC) mandatory animal ethics form that contains details of a AUP holder's intended live vertebrate and cephalopod animal use, which must be reviewed and approved by the ACC in advance of Animal-Based Science activities (see AECP Policies & Procedures POL-002).

**Categories of Invasiveness** – Levels of animal impact arising from experimental procedures, as outlined within Canadian Council on Animal Care's Categories of Invasiveness in Animal Experiments (1991) and Guidelines on the care and use of wildlife, Appendix D – CCAC Categories of Invasiveness for Wildlife Studies (2003), as follows:

- **A** – Most invertebrates or live isolates
- **B** – Little or no discomfort or stress
- **C** – Minor stress or pain of short duration
- **D** – Moderate to severe distress or discomfort
- **E** – Procedures causing severe pain at or above the pain tolerance threshold of unanaesthetized conscious animals