TITLE: Animal Hazards Program

PURPOSE: To reduce the health risk of using animals in research and teaching to an acceptable level.

REVIEW/REVISIONS: Permanent amendment/revisions to this policy must be presented to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) for review before implementation, with the exception of updating internet URLs, if required. Continuing review of this policy by the IACUC will occur at least every three years.

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE: IACUC Membership and Staff, Occupational Health Office Staff, UAC and research personnel

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11/22/00; Revisions/Re-Approval: 3/22/01, 9/29/05, 11/2/07, 11/5/09, 6/30/11, 04/08/13, 10/13/14, 11/6/14

POLICY/PROCEDURES:

This Policy outlines the requirements for participation in an occupational health program for individuals working with animals. The occupational health program is designated the Animal Hazards Program. A full explanation of the Animal Hazards Program can be found at: http://rgw.arizona.edu/compliance/IACUC/animal-hazards-program. Participation in the Animal Hazards Program is defined as submission of the individual’s Risk Assessment Questionnaire.

Risk Assessment Questionnaire:
Individuals listed on an IACUC protocol must be registered with the Animal Hazards Program, by completing a Risk Assessment Questionnaire (RAQ). Subsequent medical surveillance may be declined by completing a Medical Declination.

Documentation:
As part of the Animal Hazards Program, every area used for animal activities must be inspected for occupational health and safety hazards. This is documented on an Animal Hazards Program Checklist, which must be completed at least every twelve months. Completion of checklist will be reviewed as part of the Continuing Review.

JUSTIFICATION:

The University of Arizona is registered as an animal research facility with USDA, is a PHS assured institution and is accredited by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC).

An occupational health program for personnel working with laboratory animals is required by PHS Policy IV,A,1,f and the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.