



**Florida State University
Animal Care and Use Committee
Guidelines on Reporting Adverse Events and Unexpected Outcomes
(Formerly Policy on Reporting of Unexpected Outcomes)**

The FSU ACUC encourages principal investigators to self-report unexpected experimental outcomes that adversely affect animal well-being. An adverse event or unexpected outcome is any occurrence that has a negative impact on an animal that was not described in the approved ACUC protocol. Examples of adverse events or unexpected outcomes include, but are not limited to:

- The phenotype of a genetically modified or mutant animal is discovered to include an unexpected condition that negatively affects animal well-being.
- Physical restraint of an animal that results in lesions, illness, or behavioral changes.
- A surgical procedure that causes unexpected complications or death.
- A higher than expected morbidity or mortality rate occurs, related to the experiment or other unanticipated events (e.g. loss of power, equipment malfunction, human error)
- Study-related complications not expected as part of the research design (e.g. anesthetic failure, anesthetic deaths, post-procedural infections).

The reporting of adverse events and unexpected outcomes should be done within 72 hours of occurrence of an adverse event or unexpected outcome. Reports may be submitted online at <https://lar.fsu.edu/forms/adverse-event-or-unexpected-outcome-report/>. Reports may also be made by contacting an LAR veterinarian or any FSU ACUC member.

Approval Date: January 27, 2014
Revision: October 30, 2019