A) RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the University Veterinarian, IACUC members and UTSA investigators to abide by this policy.

B) APPLICATION

The University Veterinarian (UV) located at the main campus is responsible for general laboratory animal care and veterinary care of all UTSA research animals, including those at the main and downtown campuses and partner institutions.

C) DEFINITIONS

N/A

D) PROCEDURES

Duties of the UV:

1) Has overall responsibility for emergency health matters at the request of technician(s)/staff and research staff at all UTSA animal resource centers. The UV may assign or direct a veterinary technician or designee to triage emergency health or other clinical matters.

2) Has authority to suspend animal use and, if necessary, quarantine animals, when deemed in the best interest of the animal(s). If suspension or quarantine occurs, the UV shall notify the Principal Investigator (PI) and IACUC office and Chair within 3 business days.

3) Has authority to approve interim protocol changes when UV deems such changes to be in the best interest of the animal(s) or when such approval does not increase the degree of invasiveness of the already approved protocol, with written confirmation to the PI and the IACUC office and Chair within 3 business days. The interim change expires at the next appropriate IACUC meeting. PI must submit an amendment for the changes to the IACUC office within five (5) business days from receipt of the UV’s written confirmation.
4) Provides veterinary oversight on approved research / training projects as needed.

5) Provides “on-call” animal health support on an ongoing basis including
   weekends, holidays and after regular business hours or arranges back-up
   veterinary care in the absence of UV. Cases may be triaged as described in item #
   1 above.

6) Participates as a voting member of the IACUC.

7) Reviews animal related protocols, and those amendments that affect personnel or
   animal welfare, that are submitted to the IACUC.