This Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) provides instruction on how to set humane intervention points for animals used as part of McGill University's institutional training program.

Veterinarian, veterinary care staff, Facility Animal Care Committee (FACC).

3.1. Animals used for teaching and training are not being used to discover, prove, or develop new ideas and techniques and should only be used where it is based on sound ethical justification and proven educational objectives that demonstrate pedagogical merit.

3.2. Animals are used in training to develop manual skills and expertise in specific techniques (for example, animal handling or surgical skills).

3.3. Before any animal is used for tra animal cadavers and tissue.

Clinical work with animal patients and volunteers.

n vitro labs.

lon-invasive field studies.

3.4. If no pedagogically sound replacement is available, then effort should be made to reduce the number of animals used and refine techniques.

3.5. Humane intervention points are clear criteria set to prevent or relieve unnecessary pain or distress to animals used as part of the institutional training program. Humane interventions are defined as actions or instructions including, but not limited to, the following:

3.5.1. Limiting the frequency and number of training sessions for each animal.

3.5.2. Limiting number of manipulations per training session.

3.5.3. Adequate veterinary treatment, analgesia and/or supportive therapy to the animal(s).

3.5.4. Euthanasia.

4.1. Animal selection:

4.1.1. Rodents used in training should not be kept past the age of 12 months.

4.1.2. When animals are received as donations from another Animal Use Protocol (AUP), select animals of strains or genotypes that do not demonstrate any traits that affect the general condition and wellbeing of the animals.

4.1.3. Animals that are donated to be used for training purposes should be experimentally naïve.

4.2. Identification and Recordkeeping:

4.2.1. Clearly identify animals or cages of animals used in training.

4.2.2. Maintain records for each animal or group of animals used for training purposes that include:

    4.2.2.1. Source of the animals, i.e., vendor information or AUP.

        Date donated or date received.

        Date of birth.

        Details for each training session including the date and type of training.

4.3. Training using conscious animals:

4.3.1. Each animal is to be used for one procedure per training session. Animals should be identified during the training session to prevent accidental reuse.

4.3.2. Limit the number of trials to 3 for each procedure per training session, per animal. After 3 unsuccessful trials, use a different animal.

4.4. Training using anesthetized animals:

4.4.1. For pro̶c̶e̶d̶u̶r̶e̶s̶ ̶t̶h̶a̶t̶ ̶a̶r̶e̶ ̶d̶e̶m̶o̶n̶s̶t̶r̶a̶t̶e̶d̶ ̶w̶h̶i̶l̶e̶ ̶a̶n̶i̶m̶a̶l̶s̶ ̶a̶r̶e̶ ̶u̶n̶d̶e̶r̶ ̶...