Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for sick animals found in the Animal Research Facility. This policy applies to all critically ill and non-critically ill animals.

Application:

The PI/Staff member will be immediately notified of the problem by the rounding ARF Technician via phone and a follow-up email. The ARF Technician will inform the PI/Staff Member of the situation and that the animal must be euthanized within the hour or the ARF will euthanize the animal for a fee. The ARF Technician will write specific directions on the Vet Alert card. If the euthanasia is performed by the PI/Staff Member, the Vet Alert card should be returned to the ARF Manager or the designee. The PI/Staff Member must also send an email to ARF Director and the ARF Technician indicating the time of euthanasia. The ARF Rounding Technician will euthanize the animal within 1½ hours of PI/Staff Member notification if confirmation of euthanasia is not received in the appropriate time frame. The ARF will charge the PI for this service.

The PI/Staff Member will be immediately notified of the problem by the rounding Technician via phone and a follow-up email. The Technician will inform the PI/Staff Member of the situation and that the animal must be euthanized by 2 pm or the ARF will euthanize the animal for a fee. The ARF Technician will write specific directions on the Vet Alert card. If the euthanasia is performed by the PI/Staff Member, the Vet Alert card should be returned to the ARF Director or the designee. The PI/Staff Member must also send an email to the ARF Director and the ARF Technician indicating the time of euthanasia. On standard work days, the ARF rounding technician will euthanize the animal before 3 pm if the PI/staff have not confirmed they have done so by 2 pm. The ARF will charge the PI for this service.

Critical: On weekends and holidays, the ARF Rounding Technician will contact the PI/Staff Member immediately of the need to euthanize the animal. The animal should be euthanized within 1½ hours by either the PI/Staff Member or ARF Rounding Technician.

Non-Critical: On weekends and holidays, the ARF Rounding Technician will contact the PI/Staff member immediately of the need to euthanize the animals. The animal should be euthanized within 4 hours by either the PI/Staff Member or ARF Rounding Technician.

If the ARF cannot reach either the PI or the Staff member, the ARF will euthanize the animal.

Definitions:
Critically ill definition: An animal in significant pain and/or moribund.

Non-Critically ill definition: An animal that is not in significant pain but euthanasia is indicated.