

**August 21, 2014**

**To:** Attending Veterinarians  
IACUC Chairs  
IACUC Coordinators

**Subject:** Systemwide Guidance on Adoption of Research Dogs and Cats

### **Background**

This Memorandum is intended to provide guidance to University of California campuses and investigators concerning possible adoption of dogs and cats owned by the University that have served the University in research or teaching.

### **Guidance**

Dogs and cats used in research or teaching may be adopted as companion animals provided that the animals are in good health, have an expectation for a normal quality of life, and have suitable temperaments. Each UC campus should adopt locally appropriate procedures under which research dogs and cats that are the property of the Regents of the University of California may be transferred from the campus to individuals or organizations for non-research purposes.

The Campus Attending Veterinarian, in consultation with the campus Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) should establish procedures to be coordinated and supervised by the Attending Veterinarian to determine:

- The suitability of the animal for placement outside the University
- The suitability of the organization or individual receiving the animal to ensure the animal's health and well-being
- The entity that will bear the costs related to the adoption (for example, evaluation of the animal's suitability for adoption, spaying/neutering, etc.) and any post-adoption costs (for example, medical costs, liability for damage/injuries caused by the adopted animal, etc.)
- Conformance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations

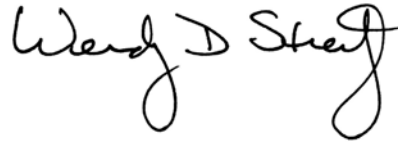
### **Limitations**

There are studies that use animals that appropriately and necessarily require euthanasia to meet the experimental endpoint. This Guidance is not applicable to dogs or cats used in such

research, including but not limited to studies requiring critical tissues collection or other terminal procedures, nor is this Guidance (or related procedures) to be used as a basis to require redesign of a study to offer adoption of research animals before the study is complete.

**Contact**

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wendy D Streit". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'W' and 'S'.

Wendy D. Streit  
Executive Director  
Research Policy Analysis & Coordination