Contraceptive Research

Perspectives on Laboratory and Field Research Considerations

Moderator: Cheryl Asa, PhD

Panel: Linda Rhodes, VMD, PhD

Lindsey Vansandt, DVM, PhD

Amy Fischer, PhD

Andrew Rowan, PhD



Laboratory research in cats



Lindner Center for Conservation and Research of Endangered Wildlife
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

Lindsey Vansandt, DVM, PhD

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Theriogenologist

Our research



Our research





Our cats | housing



Our cats | housing





Our cats | medical care



Our cats | medical care





Our cats | socialization















Our cats in their forever homes!













USDA-registered research facility



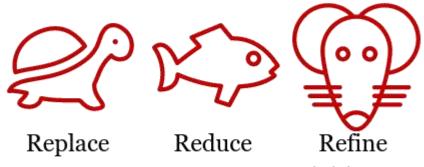
- Ensure the humane treatment of animals covered by the Animal Welfare Act
- Facilities that use animals for research, teaching, testing, or experimentation
- Annual review of the premises, records, husbandry practices, program of veterinary care, and animal handling procedures



Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

- Reviews research protocols
- Conducts evaluations of the institution's animal care and use

The 3 R's of Animal Research



the use of animals whenever possible the number of animals animals the least amount of distress



Institutional Biosafety Committee

- Reviews safety aspects of research involving recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid
 - Potential risk to environment and public health
- Roles
 - Provide technical advice on safety procedures
 - Periodic inspection of labs
 - Developing emergency plans



Challenges

- Cats are not big mice
- Cats are not little dogs
- Unique reproductive physiology
- Adoption considerations following gene therapy



FDA's stance on GE animals

For the purpose of this guidance, FDA defines "genetically engineered (GE) animals" as those animals modified by rDNA techniques, including the entire lineage of animals that contain the modification. The term GE animal can refer to both animals with heritable rDNA constructs and animals with non-heritable rDNA constructs (e.g., those modifications intended to be used as gene therapy). Although much of this guidance will be relevant to non-heritable rDNA constructs, and FDA intends to regulate non-heritable constructs in much the same way as described in this guidance for heritable constructs, this guidance only pertains to GE animals containing heritable rDNA constructs. We may issue a separate guidance on the regulation of GE animals bearing non-heritable constructs to discuss when those constructs would be under FDA jurisdiction and the kinds of information that would



FDA's stance on GE animals

Statement Regarding Glofish

There has been much media attention recently about the marketing of "Glofish." On December 9, 2003, FDA issued the following statement:

Because tropical aquarium fish are not used for food purposes, they pose no threat to the food supply. There is no evidence that these genetically engineered zebra danio fish pose any more threat to the environment than their unmodified counterparts which have long been widely sold in the United States. In the absence of a clear risk to the public health, the FDA finds no reason to regulate these particular fish.



QUESTIONS?

