

Veterinary Care Description

The veterinary care program at Johns Hopkins University is comprehensive and complies fully with the ***Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Guide)***. In addition to encompassing all aspects of disease prevention, control, diagnosis and therapy our veterinarians provide advice on animal model selection, development and characterization, oversee laboratory animal management and enrichment, advise the occupational health and safety program and IACUC and work to promote the 3 R's to investigators. The veterinarians appointed to serve the Johns Hopkins University in the conduct of the animal care and use program covered by this Assurance have either completed post-doctoral training and/or experience in laboratory animal medicine or veterinary pathology resulting in board certification in these veterinary specialties (ACLAM or ACVP) or are licensed veterinarians training and working under the mentorship of our board certified specialists to become qualified to pursue board certification themselves.

The animal care and use staff in Animal Services reports to the Associate Provost for Animal Research and Resources who has administrative responsibility for activities involving the care and use of laboratory animals at the Johns Hopkins University. The veterinary staff members are academically appointed through the Department of Comparative Medicine, and the staff currently includes 4 full-time equivalent faculty VMD/DVMs and four postdoctoral fellows. The support functions provided by Animal Services are outlined in the document, the **Use of Experimental Animals at Johns Hopkins University**, which is provided to faculty, staff and students. The veterinary staff members have the authority to use their discretion to terminate animals for humane reasons or and work closely with the IACUC to achieve prompt definitive modifications to experiments that appear to violate the aforementioned ***Guide*** standards for animal care and use.