

Patient-related research and education with animals

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1 Preface

Researchers from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine may, under certain conditions, perform activities in the context of their research or teaching on patients (client-related animals) who are offered to the clinics. When an action falls under the Animal Procedures Act, a researcher must have a project permit from the CCD that allows this action.

2 Aim

This policy document describes the criteria on the basis of which researchers and lecturers of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine can determine when actions in patients fall under the Animal Procedures Act.

3 Scope

This policy applies to all actions that are carried out in the context of research and / or education on patients of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

4 Procedure

Animals Act

In the following situations, an action on a patient falls under the Animals Act:

1. As part of clinical education, and under the supervision of a teacher, Veterinary Medicine students perform procedures on patients that are customary in regular clinical veterinary medicine.
2. Within the framework of clinical veterinary medicine, a diagnostic or therapeutic action is carried out on a patient for the benefit of the animal itself or the flock from which the animal originates. In addition, it is permitted to use material obtained with this action - with the permission of the owner - for research purposes. Examples are:

- Blood collected for diagnostic purposes is also used for DNA isolation for research purposes.
 - Organ biopsies taken for diagnostic purposes are partly also used for research purposes. These are actions that do not cause more discomfort than in the context of the usual diagnosis or therapy of the patient.
3. In order to obtain a marketing authorization for a veterinary medicinal product, an experiment is carried out within clinical veterinary medicine. This is a field trial or clinical trial. In these cases, an exemption from the CBG must be available.
 4. For research or education, experimental procedures are performed on patients that cause less discomfort than inserting a needle in accordance with good veterinary practice.

Animal Procedures Act (Wod)

In the following situations an action on a patient falls under the Wod:

In a patient, procedures are performed that may involve more discomfort than inserting a needle in accordance with good veterinary practice, while these are not directly beneficial to the animal or population from which the animal originates. Examples are:

- a) Within the framework of a research question or education - with the permission of the owner - several biopsies are taken from an organ, while the usual diagnosis justifies one biopsy of good quality.
- b) Treatments are performed under anesthesia for an educational situation, while anesthesia is not necessary in regular practice to perform the same actions.
- c) For research into the usability of sensors, a sensor is implanted subcutaneously and blood is taken several times.

Relevant laws and regulations

- Animals Act
- Animal Procedures Act, in particular Article 1b, seventh paragraph:

This law does not apply to:

- a) *non-experimental agricultural practices;*
- b) *non-experimental practices in clinical veterinary medicine;*
- c) *experiments in clinical veterinary medicine required for a marketing authorization for a veterinary medicinal product;*
- d) *practices for regular animal husbandry;*
- e) *practices the primary purpose of which is to identify the animal;*
- f) *practices that are unlikely to cause as much, or more, pain, suffering, distress, or permanent damage as or more than the insertion of a needle in accordance with good veterinary practice.*

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