

## INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC)

### POLICY ON TRANSPORTATION OF ANIMALS

#### GENERAL POLICY

All animal transportation within an MGH animal facility, between MGH animal facilities, and to and from MGH must comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations and with current accreditation standards. A Transportation form should be included in the IACUC protocol if live animals will be transported to facilities outside of MGH or if live animals will be moved within or between MGH facilities, including between housing facilities and laboratory or imaging areas.

Transportation of research animals within MGH buildings must be done in a discreet and protected manner, to minimize contact between the animal and non-research staff, patients, and the public. All animals must be enclosed completely in a container or covered while on a stable transport device approved by the Director of the Center for Comparative Medicine (CCM) or their designee. Contact the CCM facility manager to discuss appropriate methods of transportation. Larger species (e.g., dogs, livestock, nonhuman primates) and smaller yet possibly vocal species (e.g., guinea pigs, rabbits) must be transported in a manner that minimizes apparent sound or motion and strong consideration should be given to using sedation to facilitate transport within MGH buildings. Transport of NHPs outside of CCM facilities must be conducted using CCM transport boxes or the PI/designee must provide CCM with a plan for transport to the laboratory destination that minimizes NHP exposure to other MGR I personnel.

Transportation of research animals between MGH campuses and to and from other destinations outside MGH should be captured in the approved IACUC protocol and be consistent with the CCM transport process. A request for CCM animal transportation services can be made by submitting an [Animal Transfer Form](#) to the CCM Transfer Import Export Office ([ccmtie@partners.org](mailto:ccmtie@partners.org)). In cases involving frequent transport of larger species for training or imaging sessions, research staff may perform such transportation using a CCM vehicle only after clearance has been obtained and proper training has been completed. Information on CCM transportation van use by non-CCM staff can be found on the [Animal Ordering & Transfers](#) page of the CCM website under Live Animal and Equipment Transportation. Private vehicles, public transit, or

MGB shuttles must never be used to transport live animals. Transports that require the use of controlled substances for sedation must follow the process outlined in Appendix A of the Policy on Use of Controlled Substances in Non-Human Research.

## REFERENCES

[Policy on Use of Controlled Substances in Non-Human Research - Appendix A](#)

v1.1, February 2005

v1.2, May 2006

v1.3, 15 September 2021

v1.4, 16 February 2022