



INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE

Instructions for investigators using live embryonated eggs

As per OLAW¹:

“Although avian and other egg-laying vertebrate species develop backbones prior to hatching, OLAW interprets the PHS Policy as applicable to their offspring only after hatching. The egg-laying adult animal is covered by the Policy. OLAW expects Assured institutions to have policies and procedures in place that address the care or euthanasia of animals that hatch unexpectedly.”

The IACUC requires a *brief* memo from any principal investigator (PI) who wants to use live **embryonated eggs**. The memo needs to be received by the IACUC office *before* the eggs are purchased. The memo needs to include the following things:

1. What is the species from which the eggs are obtained?
2. Where will it be purchased?
3. Who will be working with the tissues (faculty, graduate students, staff)?
4. What type of protective equipment will be worn (ie masks, gloves, and/or lab coat)?
5. How will it be disposed of?
6. Are there any biosafety concerns?
7. At what stage of embryonic development will the eggs be used? Note: If near hatching, the embryos may need to be euthanized.
8. If the eggs inadvertently hatch, how will the hatchling(s) be humanely euthanized and by whom?

This memo will be reviewed by the IACUC, included in the minutes, and filed by the IACUC office.

¹ http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/faqs.htm#App_4