



Purpose:

Procedure to be followed when requesting a post mortem of a research animal by a veterinarian.

Procedure:

Preparation of Animal

1. Place animal in plastic bag of appropriate size. Animal Service Unit staff can provide you with a zip lock plastic bag.
2. Remove as much air as possible from the bag and seal it
3. Label the bag with the name of the Chief Investigator, ACEC approval Number, animal ID and the words "Keep for PM".
4. If the animal has been infected with level 2 human pathogens, write "PC2" on the bag and handle appropriately- including disinfection of the exterior of the bag and placement in a PC2 refrigerator.
5. If the animal is a genetically manipulated animal write "GM" on the bag.
6. Place the bagged animal in an appropriate refrigerator
7. DO NOT FREEZE the animal unless you will be unable to have the post mortem carried out within 48 hours. Freezing significantly limits the usefulness of a post mortem.

Paperwork

1. Complete a "Post Mortem Submission Form"- forms will be located with plastic bags and can be downloaded from the Animal Welfare and Training Unit and Animal Services Unit websites.
2. Please add as much history as possible to the form and ensure that you include your contact details.
3. Attach the Post Mortem form to the exterior of the plastic bag

Notify ASU Staff and Veterinarian

Notify ASU and veterinary staff personally if possible, or by phone or email of the need for the post-mortem and the location of the animal. Contact numbers for the veterinarian are located near all phones in the animal facility.

ASU Staff finding a Deceased Animal

1. Follow the instructions in "Preparation of Animal" above.
2. Make a note in the corresponding red folder to the effect that an animal was found dead
3. Notify the Chief Investigator or contact person for the research project.

It is then the responsibility of research staff to organise a post mortem and complete the post mortem submission form if a post mortem is required.