

Miscellaneous

Item 4 – Use of Embryonated Eggs

Avian embryos taken from fertilized eggs prior to hatching are not regulated by any federal or state guidelines or regulations and, therefore, do not require Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) protocol per se. Although pre-18 day chicken embryos cannot survive *ex ovo*, regulatory agency concern stems from the possibility that, if not closely monitored, the eggs could progress to hatching prior to their use. This would result in live chicks, which ARE regulated under both PHS policy and our AAALAC, Int. accreditation.

Therefore, it is the IACUC's opinion that any investigator intending to commonly use embryos beyond the 10th day of incubation must submit a IACUC protocol. This protocol will only be required to cover the steps to be taken in the situation whereby chicks inadvertently hatch and DOES NOT NEED TO INCLUDE ALL OF THE EXPLANATIONS / JUSTIFICATIONS FOR THE USE OF THE EMBRYOS. DLAR will develop a standard method of handling this situation and, if appropriate, the investigator will only be required to sign off on this standard protocol.

The routine use of embryos prior to 10 days of incubation does not require specific approval or documentation with the IACUC. If, in this type of use, there is inadvertent hatching of chicks, please contact DLAR (Ext. 4-6563) for disposition.

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