1. FUNCTION

The main function of the Facility Veterinarian is to oversee the health and welfare of all animals in their assigned facility(ies). Facility Managers and their staff will perform the daily routine animal assessment and care, but the Facility Veterinarian works closely with Facility Managers and Attending Veterinarians to 1) maintain the required standards of animal care (as identified by the CCAC and UCACS), 2) ensure effective management of the facility, and 3) ensure an environment to allow an Animal Use Protocol (AUP) to proceed.

2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Medicine (CALAM) Standards of Veterinary Care Document provides guidance on the expected standards of veterinary care (http://calam-acmal.org/pdfs/StandardsVetCare.pdf). The role and responsibilities of the Facility Veterinarian is in accordance with these standards as mandated in the guidelines. The responsibilities of the UCACS Facility Veterinarian include:

2.1 Continuous assurance of health and welfare of all animals in the teaching and research facility(ies) (this excludes the Veterinary Medical Centre) including animals not associated with AUPs. This includes:

- Diagnosis and treatment of disease
- Review of postmortem examinations
- Guidance into management recommendations that enhance animal health and welfare such as nutrition, facility cleaning and sanitation, vaccination programs, etc.
- Comprehensive preventative health program
- Coordination of veterinary care
- Provision of environmental enrichment

2.2 Work closely with the Attending Veterinarians to identify and address animal welfare needs or concerns of existing and upcoming research/teaching projects.

2.2.1 The Attending Veterinarian provides direct care to any animal associated with an AUP. However, in his/her absence the UCACS delegates authority to the Facility Veterinarian to immediately treat or euthanize any animal in an unacceptable state of pain or distress. ***Note:*** In many cases the Facility Veterinarian will be the Attending Veterinarian listed on a protocol.

2.3 Work closely with the Facility Manager and his/her staff to identify and address animal health and welfare issues and to identify best of practices of veterinary care and management of the facility.

2.4 Provide guidance to all facility users (Attending Veterinarians, Facility Manager and staff, Principal Investigators and research personnel) on the current best practices associated with humane animal care and use. This may involve mentoring or hands-on training to facility users and staff.

2.5 Communicate significant veterinary or facility management issues to the Facility Manager and Animal Welfare Veterinarian in a timely manner.

2.6 Conduct regular documented facility inspections (two times per year), which are separate from the UCACS Facility Inspection Committee visits, with reports forwarded to the Facility Manager, Animal Welfare Veterinarian, and University Veterinarian.

2.6.1 Participate in scheduled visits of the UCACS Facility Inspection committee to allow for a clear exchange of important veterinary care, health and management information and practices to the committee.

2.7 Complete the on-line training course on the *care and use of experimental animals.*

3. DESIGNATION OF FACILITY VETERINARIAN

3.1 General Guidelines for Recruitment and Designation

3.1.1 The Director, Dean or designate of the respective college, department or research centre for which the individual is on faculty or staff will recommend the Facility Veterinarian and he/she will be designated by the Vice-President Research.

3.1.2 The Vice-President Research will designate the Facility Veterinarian and inform the UCACS, Director of Research Ethics Office, University Veterinarian, and Animal Welfare Veterinarian.

3.1.3 The new Facility Veterinarian and Vice-President Research will sign a Letter of Designation. The signature of the new Facility Veterinarian signifies his or her understanding of the responsibilities detailed in section 2 of the Terms of Reference and willingness to fulfill the role of the Facility Veterinarian on behalf of the UCACS and University of Saskatchewan. Copies of the letter shall be held by the Vice-President Research, the Research Ethics Office, and the designate's Department, Research Centre, and/or affiliated institution, as appropriate.

3.2 Eligibility and Qualifications

3.2.1 Veterinarians licensed with the SVMA are eligible for designation as Facility Veterinarian.

3.2.2 Specific expertise with the species associated with the facility(ies) is mandatory.

3.2.1 Recruitment of the Facility Veterinary will consider:

- Knowledge of, and demonstrated experience in, the current local research context and ethics
- Integrity (personal and academic)
- Willingness to learn and to continuously update knowledge and skills
- Ability and willingness to work as part of a team and to provide leadership of that team
- Ability to positively represent the UCACS, the University of Saskatchewan, and its affiliates locally, regionally and nationally
- Ability and willingness to undertake Facility Veterinarian Roles and Responsibilities as defined in Section 2

4. DEFINITIONS

AUP – Animal Use Protocol (research, teaching, testing, production)
CALAM – Canadian Association for Laboratory Animal Medicine
CCAC – Canadian Council on Animal Care
SVMA – Saskatchewan Veterinary Medicine Association
UCACS – University Committee on Animal Care and Supply

5. DESIGNATION AS FACILITY VETERINARIAN

I understand the roles and responsibilities as identified above and agree to the designation as Facility Veterinarian.

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Facility(ies)

Designate (Print Name)	Designate (Signature)	Date
Vice-President Research (Print Name)	Vice-President Research (Signature)	Date