



<b>Internal Regulation Title</b>	Animal Contact Assessment				
<b>Date Last Revised</b>	01/25/2024	<b>Date Created</b>	09/21/2021	<b>Revision #</b>	2.0
<b>Regulation Number</b>	23	<b>Required by</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> OHRP <input type="checkbox"/> Funding Agency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OLAW		
<b>Applicability</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> RGC Internal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Researcher <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional				
<b>Subgroup</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> NKU Compliance <input type="checkbox"/> IRB <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IACUC <input type="checkbox"/> IBC				

### 1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this internal regulation is to provide a framework for conducting animal contact assessments as a risk assessment for the NKU IACUC.

### 2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION AND SCOPE

This internal regulation applies to any faculty, staff, student or visitor who handles animals covered under an NKU IACUC protocol. Federal regulations require an occupational health and safety program to be part of the overall animal care and use program in order to maintain a safe and healthy workspace.

### 3.0 DETAILS

#### OVERVIEW

Medical surveillance is a critical component of effective occupational health programs and involves the evaluation of health risks associated with an individual’s exposure to animals and hazardous agents. The initial evaluation (Animal Contact Assessment) establishes a baseline of an individual’s health and potential exposure risks. Subsequent updates help assess an individual’s changing risks. In many cases, an initial risk assessment is all that is necessary. For some individuals, however, a clinical examination and vaccination(s) may be required as well.

#### ANIMAL CONTACT ASSESSMENT FORM

Any faculty, staff, student or visitor who handles animals covered under an NKU IACUC protocol must complete an annual electronic Animal Contact Assessment:

- before handling animals
- annually while listed on the IACUC protocol
- as needed (ad hoc) if the health of the individual changes during the year.

Faculty, staff, and students will complete the form electronically. Visitors should contact the Office of Research, Grants, and Contracts to complete a paper form.

Upon submittal, the Animal Contact Assessment form is submitted to a medical professional within NKU who reviews the information. If additional action is needed, the nurse will contact the individual via email.

## INSTITUTIONAL/IACUC RESPONSIBILITIES

The IACUC has the responsibility to verify that a risk assessment (Animal Contact Assessment) has been completed before an individual is allowed to work with animals. Individuals will not be approved on an IACUC protocol until they have completed the risk assessment. Any proposed protocol (new or amendment) will not be reviewed by the IACUC until all individuals associated with the protocol have completed the Animal Contact Assessment.

## INJURY OR ILLNESS

Individuals who experience an animal bite or scratch while working on an IACUC approved protocol should follow the NKU IACUC's Standard Operating Procedure #10 *Animal Bite-Scratch Incidents and Reporting*.

Individuals who experience any other type of injury or sickness related to working with animals on an IACUC approved protocol must report the incident by following NKU's Department of Safety and Emergency Management procedures which can be found [here](#).

## 4.0 REFERENCES

[NKU SOP #10 Animal Bite-Scratch Incidents and Reporting](#)

[Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, Eighth Edition](#)

## 5.0 FORMS OR ATTACHMENTS

[Animal Contact Assessment](#)

### Approvals

Title	Approved	Date Approved	Not Applicable
Manager of Research Compliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	09/21/2021	<input type="checkbox"/>
IACUC Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	09/21/2021	<input type="checkbox"/>
Institutional Official	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

### Revisions

Title	Approved	Date Approved	N/A	Summary
Manager of Research Compliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	01/25/2024	<input type="checkbox"/>	Change from per project to annual
IACUC Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Institutional Official	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	