



Administrative Panel on Laboratory Animal Care (APLAC) Guideline

APLAC Policy: **Guideline for Cephalopod Studies**

Guideline

The APLAC acknowledges that invertebrate animal research is relevant to the University's mission and that under specific circumstances, projects using certain invertebrate animal species such as cephalopods should be included in Stanford University's Animal Care and Use Program.

Effective 02/28/2019, the APLAC will ensure that protection equivalent to that provided to vertebrates will be applied to cephalopod research regarding the welfare of the animals, consideration for physical plant, and the health and safety aspects of such research.

Before beginning their studies, and when they propose adding or making substantive changes to procedures, research labs using cephalopods will be instructed to provide the following information to a VSC veterinarian:

- Training of personnel caring for and handling the animals.
- Husbandry practices, including sanitation, diet, and adequate space (especially if contiguous with vertebrate holding areas).
- Health monitoring and record keeping.
- Species interactions for those held in the same room or area.
- Physical plant provisions (e.g., emergency power availability for species whose environment would be negatively impacted by a power outage).
- Proposed anesthetic/analgesic agents.
- Method of euthanasia (with a scientific justification if the method differs from those in the AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals: 2013 Edition).
- Occupational health and safety risks (e.g., GFI circuitry, zoonotic diseases, venomous species (blue-ring octopus), etc.).

A VSC veterinarian, and when necessary a EH&S/OH&S specialist, will review this information to ensure animal welfare. A summary of this information will be presented by a VSC veterinarian to the APLAC at a convened meeting as a general discussion item.