

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Office of Regulatory Research Compliance

November 10, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: The University Research Community

FROM: Thomas O. Obisesan, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Associate Vice President for Regulatory Research Compliance and
Designated Institutional Official

SUBJECT: Association for Accreditation Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC)
Triennial Site Visit, November 20, 2017



The Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, International (AAALAC, Intl.) will conduct its regular triennial site visit to the Howard University on Monday, November 20, 2017.

AAALAC, Intl. is a non-profit organization comprised of professional societies in the life sciences. It is not a governmental agency, has no regulatory or legal function, and does not formulate animal care or use policies or regulations. Rather, AAALAC, Intl. accreditation is a voluntary peer-review process, and certifies whether standards of excellence in animal care programs are attained and maintained.

All laboratories using vertebrate animals must be prepared to participate by having knowledgeable research personnel available to answer questions about the laboratories' animal-related research, and to show the site visitors areas involved with animal housing, procedures, surgery, and euthanasia. Medical records (e.g., surgical monitoring and documentation of analgesic dosing) should also be made available.

The visit will include inspections of all animal facilities and some laboratories, during which the inspection team may speak with principal investigators, staff, etc. The accreditation assessment will involve every facet of the animal care and use program, and will involve representation from all university divisions that work to provide support to the animal care and use program. Additionally, the site visitors will pay special attention to animal use projects involving prolonged restraint, food and water restriction, multiple major survival surgeries, and the use of hazardous agents.



Accreditation of the animal care and use program and animal facility provides Howard University with the benchmark that confirms we are committed to following the Federal Regulations, national standards and institutional policy related to the use of animals in research.

The Howard University Animal Care and Use program has been AAALAC accredited since 1967. With your cooperation, we anticipate a successful accreditation site visit.