

# Deficiencies Found During the Johns Hopkins Semiannual Facilities Inspections

*The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee conducts semiannual inspections during the first two weeks of May and November; below is a list of common deficiencies and the appropriate corrective actions.*

## Animals not checked daily

Check all animals daily including holidays and weekends and keep records. Record room temperature and relative humidity ranges in housing areas daily.

## Inadequate facility maintenance

Repair damage to facilities e.g. flaking paint, holes, broken lights, leaking faucets, blocked sinks, promptly.

## Incomplete animal identification

Identify all animals with protocol number, source, strain or stock, investigators, contact information, and pertinent dates.

## Insufficient post procedural monitoring

Monitor animals closely after procedures until they are fully recovered from anesthesia, and the effects of the procedure. Remove wound clips or skin sutures after 10-14 days.

## Inadequate record keeping

Records should be complete, legible and accessible. Keep records for procedures, surgery, intra-operative, post-operative and post-procedural monitoring and care.

## Dirty surgical areas

Keep surgery areas clean and clutter free. Post a cleaning and sanitation schedule, and record dates done.

## Poor Sanitation

Clean and sanitize animal housing areas, surgeries, surfaces and equipment regularly. Post a cleaning and sanitation schedule, and record dates done.

## Waste anesthetic gases not scavenged

Scavenge anesthetic gases using a dedicated system or through building exhaust.

## Vaporizers not serviced

Service vaporizers annually and record the dates.

## Clutter

Maintain all animal use areas neat and free of clutter.

## Incomplete cage cards

Cage cards should include current protocol number, source of animal, strain or stock, principal investigator name, contacts of responsible individuals, and pertinent dates.

## Expired protocols

Protocols cannot be used once expired. Replace expired protocols. Cage cards must have current protocol number.

## Overcrowded cages

Do not house animals in cages too crowded or too small for occupant(s).

## Improper feed and bedding storage

Store bedding and feed on pallets away from the wall. Store opened bags of feed and bedding in vermin proof containers. Label containers with feed mill dates. Discard expired feed. Store feed or bedding away from chemicals and other contaminants.

## Controlled drug storage

Secure controlled drugs and their records.

## Unapproved outside housing

House animals only in RAR Animal Facilities or ACUC approved locations and for approved purposes and times.

## Unacceptable euthanasia method

Use carbon dioxide from compressed gas cylinders only, not from dry ice.

## Improper sharps disposal

Dispose sharps in proper sharps containers. Containers should not be overfilled.

## Overfilled biohazard containers

Use proper containers to dispose biohazards. Containers should not be overfilled.

## Expired drugs and supplies

Identify and properly dispose of outdated drugs and supplies.

## Inconsistent personal protective equipment (PPE) use

PPE is your last defense against work place hazards. Wear uniforms, scrubs or laboratory coats as indicated. These clothes should not be worn in public places.

## Unsecured gas tanks

Secure all gas tanks to prevent injury to people and animals.

## Useful Contacts

<a href="#">ACUC</a>	7-3738	Veterinarians	5-3273
<a href="#">Safety</a>	5-5918	Occ. Health	4-1129
Facilities (SOM)	5-3327	Facilities (Bayview)	0-2422
Facilities (BSPH)	5-3451	Facilities (Homewood)	6-6490
<a href="#">Animal Resources</a>	5-3713	Necropsy	4-1951
Clinical Pathology	5-3273	Histopathology	5-8728

