

Mandatory Training Components for Research Animal Surgery

Summary/Purpose: Requirements for performing surgery on laboratory animals.

Policy

USDA Regulations (9 CFR 2.32) require that individuals performing surgery on animals be appropriately qualified and trained. PHS Policy (IV.C.1.f.) requires that personnel conducting procedures on the species being maintained or studied will be appropriately qualified and trained in those procedures. All investigators and staff who perform or participate in surgery on laboratory animals in any teaching, testing, or research protocol at The University of Mississippi must complete mandatory training.

Procedure

All research personnel must receive training, demonstrate proficiency, and be certified by the Attending Veterinarian (AV) before performing surgery unsupervised. Training components include:

1. Complete required AALAS training
2. Observe and assist AV (or experienced, qualified personnel) perform surgery
3. Perform surgery, including pre-operative procedure, under direct supervision of AV until competent
4. Demonstrate thorough post-operative observational skills to the AV.

See the [Proficiency Criteria for Research Animal Surgery form](#)