

NAEAC POLICY STATEMENT: WHICH AEC SHOULD ASSUME THE APPROVAL ROLE?

Purpose

To provide guidance to AECs as to whose responsibility it is to approve a project in various circumstances.

While most applications will involve only one organisation (ie researchers employed by a code holder and undertaking research using the code holder's animals and facilities) from time to time circumstances arise which are somewhat more complicated. When more than one party is involved in whatever way, NAEAC stresses the need for documented communication and for AECs to at least be informed of what is happening.

Situation	Recommendation
1. Organisation A manipulates animals using its own staff and facilities	A
2. Organisation A manipulates its own animals using its own facilities. Some personnel involved are employed by Organisation B.	A but there must be a mechanism to ensure that B's personnel are required to comply with the protocol. Also if B has an AEC, B's code should be consulted for any specific requirements (eg informing the AEC).
3. Organisation A manipulates B's animals using B's premises but A's staff (eg on farm trials)	A
4. Organisation A manipulates B's animals on A's premises using A's staff (eg pets used in veterinary nursing courses)	A
5. Organisation A arranges for B to manipulate B's animals on B's premises	B if B has a code and AEC. If B does not and A does, A may approve providing there is supervision and a mechanism for ensuring compliance with the approved protocol. If neither has an AEC, B should enter into an arrangement to use a code and AEC.
6. Organisation A manipulates B's animals on B's premises. Both A and B have an AEC (eg organisations using zoo animals)	A (B's code should be consulted for any specific requirements and B's AEC should receive a copy of the approved protocol)
7. Organisation A contracts B to carry out manipulations	B
8. Organisation A and B collaborate using Facilities, personnel and/or animals owned by both parties	Either but the other AEC should receive a copy of the approved protocol (and both codes should be consulted for specific requirements eg it may be that the approval of both AECs is required)

NAEAC Policy

1st approved: 24.08.99, published *NAEAC News 14*, March 2000

Reviewed and amended: 15.11.07 (Ref NAEAC 134/07)