



# Curtin University Standard Operating Procedure

## UAE OF ANIMAL CADAVERS AND/OR ANIMAL TISSUES

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**Reviewed:**

DATE					
REVIEWER					

**Aims / Objectives:** To provide guidance to researchers requiring the use of animal cadavers and/or animal tissues at Curtin University

### Definitions:

AEC: Animal Ethics Committee

Animal Cadaver: A dead body of an animal

Animal Tissues: Any part of the body of a dead animal e.g., muscle, organs, skin, and blood.

### Procedure:

1. Researchers must contact the Ethics Office to ascertain whether an application is required for the use of animal tissues or cadavers as part of your teaching or research project. If any of the investigators has had a part in killing or deciding on a particular animal to kill, then a full application may be required.
2. Researchers may be exempted from submitting an application to the AEC in certain instances. This includes:
  - a. Where animals are obtained as cadavers and the recipient has no influence over the timing or method of euthanasia;
  - b. Where only tissue or samples are obtained from third parties- such as the abattoir (where the animal was not slaughtered specifically for this activity) or other AEC approved projects;



- c. Where no trapping or handling of any live animals has occurred to obtain the cadavers or animal tissues;
  - d. If the tissue is taken from stock stored from previous scientific projects which have since closed;
  - e. Unused or discarded clinical samples;
  - f. Archival tissues from museum collections, tissues banks or other similar sources;
  - g. Collecting dead animals found in the wild;
  - h. Fish Frames from fishers as long as the fish were not caught for the project.
3. Curtin University recognises that the “Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes” only regulate the use of live animals, however, the ethics office would like to be fully informed on the use of all animals at the University. In the situations discussed above in Point 2, the submission of a form (see attached forms) to inform the Curtin AEC of the use, benefits of the research, and the source of the animals and/or tissue. Please contact the Ethics Office to discuss your individual requirements.
  4. Animal tissues and cadavers must be disposed of accordingly. Please refer to your local biological waste disposal method.

**Accompanying Forms:** Use of Cadavers at Curtin University (Forms 11 and 12).