**Introduction**

The [*NHMRC Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes*](https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/australian-code-care-and-use-animals-scientific-purposes) states that a pilot study can be an integral component of the overall project. A pilot study is incorporated into the design of the project if the potential impact cannot be predicted on the basis of available evidence, to allow staged assessment of the impact on animal wellbeing and the development of strategies to avoid or minimise any adverse impact. This includes the identification of appropriate humane endpoints and the development of strategies to avoid or minimise any adverse impact.

Pilot studies involve a small number of animals and are used:

1. To establish new procedures to assess the impact of both the procedure on the animals and the skills of the research team.
2. To verify if proposed monitoring criteria and humane endpoints are satisfactory to ensure wellbeing.
3. To provide an opportunity for refinement and reduction.

Where appropriate, the investigator may work with the Director of Animal Care or the Animal Welfare Officers to refine the project.

This report must be approved by the UNSW ACECs prior to commencing the full study.

Submit this report to [animalcare@unsw.edu.au](mailto:animalcare@unsw.edu.au).

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| ACEC Number |  | Chief Investigator |  |
| Project Title |  | | |
| Condition of approval |  | | |
| Date/s |  | | |

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| SECTION 1: Animal usage for the pilot study | | | | |
| Species/Strain/Sex | Number of Animals used in the pilot study | Number of unexpected mortalities or unplanned euthanasia | Number of animals withdrawn from study (*provide details below*) | Total number of animals successfully completing the pilot study |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Any additional information: | | | | |

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| SECTION 2: Pilot study outcomes | |
| Briefly summarise the experimental details and the outcome of the pilot study. | |
| Provide details of any unforeseen complications or unexpected adverse events, including details of mortalities or unplanned euthanasia. | |
| Based on the outcomes of the pilot study, are any modification/s required to refine the experimental design, the experimental procedure or animal monitoring and management of pain and distress? | YES  NO |
| If **YES**, provide details. | |
| Based on the answer above, will a project modification be submitted? | YES  NO |
| If appropriate, provide additional information relevant to this pilot study. You can attach monitoring sheets, images, results etc. | |

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| Person reporting | | | |
| Name |  | | |
| Contact details |  | | |
| Signature |  | Date |  |