**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) defines unexpected adverse event as an event that may have a negative impact on the wellbeing of animals and was unforeseen in the approved project or activity.

An unexpected adverse event may result from different causes, including but not limited to:

* Death of an animal or group of animals that was not expected (e.g., during surgery or anaesthesia, or after a procedure or treatment),
* Adverse events following a procedure or treatment that were not expected,
* Adverse effects in a larger number of animals than predicted during the planning of the project or activity based on the number of animals actually used, not the number approved for the study,
* A greater level of pain or distress than was predicted during the planning of the project or activity,
* Power failures, inclement weather, emergency situations or other factors external to the project or activity that have a negative impact on the welfare of the animals.

In addition, when an animal dies unexpectedly, or is euthanased due to unforeseen complications, a necropsy should be performed by a competent person.

To safeguard the wellbeing of animals when an unexpected adverse event or an unforeseen complication occurs, investigators must take prompt action including alleviation of pain and distress and promptly notify the ACEC in accordance with the [UNSW Animal Research Ethics Procedure](https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/animalresearchethicsprocedure.pdf).

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

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ACEC Approval Number |  | Chief Investigator |  |
| Project Title |  | | |
| Species |  | Strain |  |
| Sex | Newly added | Animal ID | Newly added |
| Location of Animals |  | | |
| Date of Incident |  | Date of Report |  |

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| SECTION 1. Summary of circumstances |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SECTION 2. Outcome of incident | | | |
| Number of animals in affected cohort | Number of animals that required euthanasia (morbidity) | Number of animals that died (mortality) | Number of animals that recovered (experiment continued) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Was the experiment terminated? | YES  NO | Date terminated: |  |
| Other remarks |  | | |

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| --- | --- |
| SECTION 3. Necropsy details | |
| Name of person who conducted the necropsy: |  |
| Relationship to this study: | Veterinarian (name):  Member of Project Research Team  Other (please provide details): |
| Summary of results from necropsy (please attach the necropsy and other relevant reports): | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| SECTION 4. Future actions | |
| Have you or do you plan to amend the project? | YES  NO |
| Have you or do you plan to submit a request for modification? | YES  NO |
| Outline any future actions or procedures to be implemented as a result of this incident to safeguard animal wellbeing. Include details of any future modification/s to your approved project. | |

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