



Original Message:
Sent: 03-22-2020 01:17:20 PM
From: Chris Boehm
Subject: Who is suspending all or most animal research?

Hi, Lynn,

We are following most of the items you've hit upon.

We were able to get in our IACUC inspections last week, as we were unsure if we'd be open April 25th, even with the 30 day extra window OLAW is allowing.

We broke our staff into teams of two, trying to reduce the chance of decimating our care staff in case someone comes up positive. We're alternating days that crews come in, and on the 'off' days, staff are expected to check emails and study for AALAS certifications using the books, CDs, and ALL. (Our IT group found some basic laptops for everyone. [We're also pretty small.]) Teams are balanced so there is either a vet or vet tech who can make the call on an animal's health or administer drugs if necessary. If someone come up sick, we will work as if it was a permanent weekend: one person only focussing on health, food, water, spot changing. We are lucky that we only have a few cages on water bottles, but the PIs have indicated they can go onto lixits if needed.

We also incorporated a sticker system:

- irreplaceable genotypes
- animals on experiment
- commercially available breeders

This will help us make those decisions over time as to separating animals, and euthanizing animals. We also euthanized about 80% of my training colony. Investigators have also reached out and said that if my staff is unable to come in, they are willing to come in and check the animals.

Worst case scenario, if I get the call that no one will be in (hoping I have advanced notice), we will separate cages of 5 animals to 2/3, separate breeders if it hasn't been done already, and put another food hopper's worth of food on the bottom and cross our fingers.

Hope that helps.

Chris

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