



Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine

Memorandum

To: School of Dental Medicine Faculty

From: Stephen G. Walker, MSc, PhD

Date: April 24, 2013

Subject: Use of Animal Cadavers in Teaching & Research

Dear SDM Faculty,

This memo is to inform SDM faculty of University policy on the use of animal cadavers, or parts of animals, in teaching activities. Teaching activities involving animal cadavers must be conducted in a registered research or teaching laboratory. During these teaching activities, all participants must utilize laboratory coats, gloves and eye protection. These standard precautions are to decrease the risk of zoonotic infections when animal cadavers have not been chemically preserved. When chemically preserved animal cadavers are used, the protective clothing is to decrease exposure to the preservative. Ensure that there is adequate airflow in laboratories when using chemically preserved animal cadavers.

Instruments used on cadaver animals are never to be then used on humans even if they have been decontaminated, cleaned and sterilized. This is due to the possibility that the instruments were contaminated with a transmissible spongiform encephalopathies agent (prion) such as Scrapie or BSE ("mad cow disease"). These agents are extremely resistant to heat and chemical sterilization processes.

Upon completion of the teaching activity, the animal cadavers must be disposed of as hazardous waste. If collection of hazardous in that laboratory occurs infrequently, please store the animal cadaver in a freezer until the day that the hazardous waste is collected. For questions on the disposal of animal cadavers, please contact Jeffrey Carter (2-3739) of Environmental Health and Safety.

Please note that if the animal cadaver was purchased from a butcher or slaughterhouse, you do not need to obtain permission from the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). IACUC approval is only required if the animal was sacrificed specifically for the teaching activity.

Department Chairs must ensure that their faculty are in compliance of these University regulations on the use of animal cadavers in teaching activities. If you have any questions, please contact myself or Robert Holthausen (2-9672) / Kim Gates (2-3032) of Environmental Health and Safety.