



Dartmouth College

Animal Care and Use Program

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

### IACUC Policies and Procedures

**Title:** Dog Exercise Policy

**Policy:** These are in accordance with requirements of the Department of Agriculture, APHIS, Animal Welfare Standards; Final Rule published in the Federal Register, February 15, 1991.

- 1) Dogs over 12 weeks of age housed individually in enclosures that provide less than two times the minimum required floor space per dog will be provided additional opportunities for exercise.
- 2) Opportunity for additional exercise will be provided to each dog daily (Monday-Friday), for a period of 15 minutes each day.
- 3) Dogs will be removed from their enclosure and released into an otherwise empty room of at least 200 sq. ft.
- 4) When possible, several compatible dogs of the same sex, from the same room, will be released together to facilitate social interaction.
- 5) Dogs will be observed initially during the exercise period to assure compatibility and to allow socialization with humans.
- 6) To minimize disease transmission, the exercise area will be disinfected and rinsed with water when necessary, and between groups of dogs from separate rooms.
- 7) Exemptions to exercise may be granted when exercise is restricted as part of an IACUC approved research project and when exercise would be detrimental to the health and well being of the dogs. Unless the exemption is for a permanent condition, the exemption will be reviewed every 30 days by the attending veterinarian. All exemptions to exercise will be documented.