



Dartmouth College

Animal Care and Use Program

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

### IACUC Policies and Procedures

**Title:** Multiple Major Survival Surgery

**Policy:** The USDA defines a major operative procedure as any surgical intervention that penetrates and exposes a body cavity or any procedure that produces permanent impairment of physical or physiological functions.

No animal is to be used in more than one major operative procedure which it is allowed to recover, unless:

- Justified for scientific reasons by the principal investigator in writing;
- Required as a routine veterinary procedure or to protect the health and well-being of the animal as determined by the attending veterinarian
- They conserve scarce animal resources, or
- In other special circumstances as determined by the Administrator (USDA, APHIS) on an individual basis.

A major survival operative procedure must not be performed a second time on an animal in a separate proposal.

Cost savings alone is not an adequate reason for performing multiple major survival procedures.