USE OF NON-PHARMACEUTICAL GRADE COMPOUNDS IN RESEARCH

Investigators are required to use pharmaceutical-grade medications whenever they are available, even in acute procedures. Non-pharmaceutical-grade chemical compounds should only be used in animals after specific review and approval by the IACUC for reasons such as scientific necessity or non-availability of an acceptable veterinary or human pharmaceutical-grade product. Cost savings alone are not an adequate justification for using non-pharmaceutical-grade compounds in animals.

Drugs that are not pharmaceutical grade should be identified on the Animal Use Form (AUF). The use of non-pharmaceutical grade compounds must be scientifically justified. In addition, if non-pharmaceutical grade compounds are to be used, the PI should take precautions to maintain aseptic conditions and the drugs should be:

- of the highest purity available
- adjusted to ensure a pH level as close to neutrality as possible
- constituted in a sterile solution for administration to the animal (i.e.: a .02 micron filter)
- kept in a sterile, sealed container after constitution for a limited period of time
- administered with sterile technique

By following the preceding procedures you will help prevent the inadvertent administration of infectious agents, noxious substances, pharmaceutically nonequivalent medications, or otherwise defective products.

For additional information see: [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/faqs.htm#662](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/faqs.htm#662)