



RESEARCH  
AND ENGINEERING

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

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MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, ANIMAL CARE AND USE REVIEW OFFICE,  
DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY  
DIRECTOR, ANIMAL RESEARCH COMPLIANCE AND  
OVERSIGHT OFFICE, U.S. ARMY  
DIRECTOR, VETERINARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT OF THE  
NAVY, BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY  
DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ANIMAL  
RESEARCH OVERSIGHT AND COMPLIANCE OFFICE  
DIRECTOR, VETERINARY REVIEW OFFICE, UNITED STATES  
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND  
RESEARCH OVERSIGHT BOARD PROGRAM MANAGER,  
DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY  
ANIMAL SUBJECTS RESEARCH ACTION OFFICER, DEFENSE  
ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY

SUBJECT: Onsite Compliance Inspection Guidance for DoD-Supported Research,  
Development, Testing, and Evaluation (RDT&E) Using Animals

References: (a) Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 3216.01, Use of Animals in DoD  
Conducted and Supported Research and Training

The DoDI 3216.01 requires that component oversight offices approve and provide oversight of any Department of Defense (DoD)-supported<sup>1</sup> research, development, testing, and evaluation (RDT&E) that uses animals. Any RDT&E with dogs, cats, nonhuman primates, or marine mammals must undergo an onsite compliance inspection by a DoD veterinarian to ensure conformance with all applicable regulations, policies, and standards of veterinary care before animal work can begin. Additionally, site visits may be conducted at the discretion of the component for any species used in DoD-supported RDT&E. Per the DoDI 3216.01, components do have the ability to waive onsite inspections if the facilities are accredited by AAALAC, International. Components are encouraged and able to conduct onsite inspections after initial site approval to evaluate socially sensitive/high risk projects and self-reported adverse events or noncompliance. Access to extramural facilities is paramount to the component meeting these oversight requirements.

For any RDT&E already approved by component oversight offices in countries that the DoD veterinarian is not permitted to travel, the component oversight office must submit a plan to the undersigned that details how the component will meet regulatory oversight requirements for each project. This plan must include the project status and expected completion dates.

For any RDT&E that is not already approved, component oversight offices should not approve RDT&E that uses animals in countries in which they are unable to perform onsite

inspections. Components and funding agencies are encouraged to review and consider federal, DoD, and component provisions that may prohibit DoD personnel travel to countries of concern prior to RDT&E funding award. Waivers will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the undersigned.

The point of contact for this action is COL Shannon Marko, Director, DoD Animal Protection Programs, at (571)-372-6415 or [shannon.t.marko.mil@mail.mil](mailto:shannon.t.marko.mil@mail.mil).

Shannon T. Marko  
Director, DoD Animal Protection Programs

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<sup>i</sup> DoD-supported RDT&E or training. The provision of DoD funding, animals, facilities, equipment, or any other resources to an institution other than the DoD, that are needed to conduct the RDT&E or training. DoD-supported RDT&E or training is also referred to as “extramural” RDT&E or training.