

**INTER AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
GUAYAMA CAMPUS
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND ANIMAL SCIENCES
VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM EMERGENCY AND EVACUATION PLAN

Inter American University of Puerto Rico-Guayama Campus (IAUPR-GC) acknowledges the importance of maintaining the highest level of security to minimize risks within the campus community. A security contingency and catastrophic events protocol has been established in accordance with IAUPR-GC Contingency Plan for Emergencies due to Natural or Other Disasters (4-E1-Addendum-Contingency Plan for Emergencies due to Natural or Other Disasters).

IAUPR-GC Contingency Plan for Emergencies has legal basis applicable under federal and Puerto Rico regulations, such as Puerto Rico Explosives Act, USA Patriot Act, Homeland Security Act, Public Health Safety and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act, Enhanced Border Security, Visa Entry Reform Act, the Campus Security Act, Federal Department of Agriculture Regulations, AEMEAD Emergency Plan Preparation Guide (Review Guide), Puerto Rico Occupational Health and Safety Act, (PROSHA), and Normative Document G-0918 -046: Guidelines and Norms for the preparation of Contingency plans for Emergencies due to Natural or Other Disasters.

Campus emergency committee and the veterinary technology program personnel informs students, faculty, employees, and the public about Law 101-542, known as the Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act, which establishes that the university must collect data, disclose, and keep the university community informed about incidents that occurred at the Institution. By releasing this information, the institution complies with the CLERY Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, which is a federal statute that requires colleges and universities participating in federal financial aid programs to maintain and release statistics and safety information about crimes on Campus. It is essential that everyone knows the potential risks and works together to reduce them.

I. Purpose

The following contingency plan was developed to address emergency and evacuation protocols of on-campus laboratory animals that are used by the Veterinary Technology Program (VTP) during emergencies. To guarantee the animal safety and welfare is the priority of the Veterinary Technology Program of GC.

To respond to an emergency that may affect personnel and animals, the following priorities will to the situation:

- protect human safety, health, and welfare
- animal safety, health, and welfare
- provide continuous animal care
- safeguard property infrastructure of animal facilities
- clean surrounding areas of the physical environment
- restore teaching and administrative operations in the animal facilities

II. Background

There are no animals kept overnight in the veterinary technology facilities. However, there are occasionally laboratory animals including rats, mice, and rabbits housed for short periods of time during academic terms.

During weekends and holidays the lab animals are taken home by their owners. Animals other than lab animals are brought in by students or employees. only as needed for teaching purposes.

III. Chain of Command and Plan Implementation

The Animal Care and Use Protocol of the Veterinary Technology Program submitted to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) establishes the following emergency procedures:

A. Emergency Procedures

Emergency procedures are determined to provide for emergency veterinary care both during and outside of regularly scheduled hours also when animal facilities may be affected by different types of events, such as natural disasters, that affect animals, experiments, and facilities. It is necessary to establish a planned and coordinated emergency response because these events can affect animal welfare. For this reason, principles of disaster preparedness and response have been integrated to the Safety and Emergency Management Plan. For these reasons, there is need to assess risk levels, preparedness, and contingency plans in the event of disasters, especially:

1. After hours contact details:
2. Contact person:
3. Home telephone:
4. Mobile:
5. Email:

B. Evacuation plan

IAUPR-GC does not have a back-up facility especially prepared to evacuate animals in the event of an emergency. However, it has an auditorium which has considerable space for temporarily housing animals. Evacuation will be considered based on the details of the disaster. The decision to evacuate animals will be made by consulting with Program Director.

C. Operating arrangements during an emergency for animal welfare

1. In the event of an emergency, institutional security personnel will be able to reach the persons responsible for the animals.
2. Each procedure should identify an individual responsible for assisting in the coordination of the emergency response. An alternate person should also be identified, in case the primary individual cannot be reached.
3. If possible, some staff members who live close to the facility will be assigned to come to work during or after the emergency
4. Essential personnel should have access, keys to supply storage, etc.
5. Ensure that animal's medical and feeding information, food, medicine and other supplies accompany them.

6. A supply of food, bedding, water and personal protective equipment will be saved at all times; for a minimum of five days.
7. An adequate supply of bleach/chemical sanitizers, and any other needed emergency supplies will be stored for the same number of days.
8. Drinking/treated water will in clean containers in the facility.
9. Maintain information of animals being securely kept in facility.
10. Identify animals can be properly and easily identified.
11. Identify animals that require special attention
12. Secure the animal in a cage, box, or locked area
13. Cages will have food and fresh water to the maximum.
14. Consider animal's sanitation needs. Clean all soiled cages and bottles of water.
15. Ensure that basic medical supplies for all animals are on hand.
16. Turn freezers and refrigerators to coldest setting
17. Secure all chemicals
18. Secure all documents

D. After the emergency

1. Establish how to access the area.
2. Refresh animal water bottles and food supply immediately.
3. Conduct animal health assessments.
4. Clean and disinfect evacuation areas after animals have been relocated to their standard locations.
5. Call the person responsible to manage the power back-up equipment.
6. Evaluate emergency plan and make adjustments.