

**Clinical**

USDA-A  
Animal V

---

**Clinical H**



- ◆ - Anesthesia
  - ◆ - Surgeries
  - ◆ - Necropsies
  - Experimental procedures
    - ◆ - Brief explanation of the procedure
    - ◆ - Adverse effects, if any occur
    - ◆ - NOT experimental data
- 3 Treatment plans, which should include:
- Diagnosis (if possible)
  - Prognosis (when appropriate)
  - Type, frequency, and duration of treatment
  - Criteria and/or schedule for re-evaluation by the veterinarian
  - Medical restrictions per the order of a veterinarian (such as exercise or feeding)
- 3 Results of routine health monitoring procedures (as appropriate for species) such as:
- Weights
  - Viral screening/serology, fecal examinations
  - TB testing, Coggin's testing
- 3 All entries must be signed or initialed and dated
- 3 Information contained in medical records must be:
- Legible
  - Current
  - Consistent with professional veterinary standards
  - Sufficiently comprehensive to demonstrate the delivery of adequate veterinary care

**\*\*Experimental data should be kept in a laboratory notebook and should NOT be kept in the clinical health record (CHR) or on cage cards. \*\***

**Location(s) where clinical health records may be kept:**

CHRs must be kept within the animal facility or farm where the animals are housed or maintained. In most cases, this will be either in a designated common procedure room or in the animal room itself.

**Acceptable health record formats:**

- 3 As long as all the above information is available, many formats are acceptable:
- Electronic
  - Paper
  - Cage cards (e.g. for rodents with simple health records)
- 3 Animal Resources provides standardized CHR sheets for investigators to record relevant health information (these are NOT for research data)

**How long records must be maintained:**<sup>3</sup> USDA requirements

Dogs and cats: Records must be maintained for 3 years after the disposition or death of the animal

Other non-rodent mammals: At least one year after the animal's disposition or death

<sup>3</sup> NIH requirements

Records (data and fiscal) must be maintained for 3 years after the end of the grant

<sup>3</sup> Archived CHRs for non-rodent mammals shall be kept in URAR designated locations for review by IACUC, USDA-APHIS, and AAALAC**References**

1. USDA-APHIS-AC Policy #3: Veterinary Care, July 17, 2007.
2. Field K et al. 2007. Medical records for animals used in research, teaching, and testing: public statement from the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine. ILAR J 48(1): 37-41.
3. National Research Council, Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources. Guide for the care and use of laboratory animals. National Academy Press, Washington, DC 2010.