Common findings during Semiannual Inspections:

**Isoflurane Vaporizer certifications are out of date**

* Traditional anesthesia vaporizers are required to be checked/certified once a year. Make sure each vaporizer has a sticker that shows they are within date.

**F/air or similar charcoal canisters and anesthesia scavenger devices are not stored or properly recorded.**

* Charcoal scavengers should be weighed when new and then periodically after the start of use. These canisters should be discarded (or refilled depending on the type) after an increase in 50g.
* Most charcoal canister scavengers should be used laying lengthwise, not upright. Be sure to check the product insert for proper use.
* Charcoal canisters will release the absorbed gas after use. Be sure to store them in a fume hood when not in use.

**Expired drugs or supplies are found in the lab**

* Expired drugs are frequently found in laboratories. Please be sure to check the expiration date on all drug bottles in the lab- including controlled substances in lock boxes and drugs stored in cupboards, drawers, and the refrigerator.
* Expired drugs should be properly disposed.
* Check the expiration date on other items like bags of fluids and bottles of povidone iodine (this one is VERY common).

**Evidence of food or drink in the lab**

* Food for human consumption is strictly prohibited in laboratories. Ensure that there is no human food or drink (even empty coffee cups or water bottles) in the laboratory or trash can.
* Ensure that all human food items used as animal treats (such as boxes of cereal or crackers used in behavioral testing) are clearly labeled “not for human use”.

**General laboratory cleanup is required**

* Take extra time to sweep the floor, put away items that are left on the bench top, replace sharps containers, and empty the trash. Having a tidy laboratory makes a big difference.

**Ensure all biological testing has been completed**

* Autoclaves must be tested periodically to ensure they are working appropriately. Records of these tests must be available to inspectors.
* Equipment with direct animal contact (anesthesia induction chambers, experimental equipment, transport containers, surgical platforms, behavior apparatus, etc.) must undergo sanitation validation semiannually. Please let inspectors know if you have questions about this requirement and information will be provided to you!