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**From:** IACUC Key Personnel <IACUCKEYPERSONNEL@list.uvm.edu> on behalf of Aubrie Clas <Aubrie.Clas@UVM.EDU>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 10:40 AM  
**To:** IACUCKEYPERSONNEL@LIST.UVM.EDU  
**Subject:** Important - Resumption of Vertebrate Animal Research

Dear IACUC PIs

As a result of the COVID-19 epidemic, UVM required that all labs ramp down their activities. IACUC staff engaged in multiple regulatory pandemic educational series during this time to understand how this pause affected animal protocols. In the "[COVID-19 Pandemic Response Resources and FAQs for Animal Care and Use Programs Webinar](#)" - April 8, 2020, neither the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) nor the USDA required that investigators submit individual amendments to pause animal research. It is understood that all investigators had to make immediate changes to address their ramp down requirements.

In this same webinar, both regulatory agencies communicated their expectations that all paused protocols require IACUC review prior to resumption. The IACUC has interpreted this to mean that protocols that require revisions as a result of the pause need prior IACUC approval. We understand everyone is anxious to restart. Please reflect as to whether this pause results in a protocol change and complete this two-question online survey. The survey provides some guidance on what to do should you need to revise your protocol and also provides documentation for our regulators that the IACUC has considered their expectations.

<https://www.uvm.edu/rpo/forms/iacuc-research-survey>

Given the recent update that Animal Facilities plans to reopen on June 1, we request that you answer this survey as soon as possible and work on submitting amendments as necessary. Thank you.

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