Guideline 30: Requisition of Pharmaceutical Grade Potassium Chloride (KCl) for Euthanasia

Effective Date: March 2006

Purpose: Guidance and rational on obtaining pharmaceutical grade Potassium Chloride

- As per the USDA Animal Care Resource Guide Policy #3 - Issue Date: January 14, 2000:

Pharmaceutical-Grade Compounds in Research

“Investigators are expected to use pharmaceutical-grade medications whenever they are available, even in acute procedures. Non-pharmaceutical-grade chemical compounds should only be used in regulated animals after specific review and approval by the IACUC for reasons such as scientific necessity or non-availability of an acceptable veterinary or human pharmaceutical-grade product. Cost savings alone are not an adequate justification for using non-pharmaceutical-grade compounds in regulated animals.”

To accommodate the investigators at the University of Pennsylvania in the use of the AVMA approved method of Euthanasia, Potassium Chloride (KCl), and maintain compliance with the USDA guideline, the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) pharmacy will distribute pharmaceutical grade KCl to investigators with an approved protocol.

1. The investigative staff may contact Purchasing Services at http://www.purchasing.upenn.edu/
2. The investigative staff may contact HUP Department of Pharmacy Services at (215) 662-2291 to place an order. The pharmacy storeroom is located in the Basement of Ravdin, near the main office of the Department of Pharmacy Services.
   a. The order number for Potassium Chloride 10 mL injectable (2meq/mL) is #43063700. Please use this number when requesting the KCl. An account number must be provided when placing the order.