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### OLAW: New Guidelines for Euthanasia in Effect Oct. 1

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On July 13, the NIH Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) announced that grant applications and contract proposals submitted as of Oct. 1 must comply with updated guidelines for the euthanasia of animals.<sup>[1]</sup>

With a little more than two weeks to go before that effective date, OLAW held a webinar explaining some of the changes in the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) *Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals: 2020 Edition*.<sup>[2]</sup>

The revisions, the first since 2013, are important for members of institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC) members to know as they review euthanasia methods in protocols that principal investigators plan to follow. While some are technical modifications (such as recommended oxygen flow rates), other changes include newly addressed types of euthanasia, such as the appropriate use of blunt force.

The Sept. 10 webinar featured Axel Wolff, OLAW deputy director, and Samuel Cartner, director of the Animal Resources Program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He also chairs the laboratory animal working groups for AVMA on animal euthanasia and on depopulation.

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