Instructions for Completion of the

**ACORP Appendix 8 -- Use of Explosive Agent(s)**

**within the VMU or in Animals**

 (ACORP App. 8 Instructions)

**Version 4**

These instructions provide detailed guidance on completing Appendix 8 of the ACORP, and are referenced to the numbers of the items in Appendix 8. ONLY complete this appendix if it is relevant to the protocol being submitted for review.

Always use the most recent version of Appendix 8 of the ACORP, available at <http://www.research.va.gov/programs/animal_research/>, when preparing a protocol for IACUC review. In general, no protocol should be submitted to the IACUC on an older version of the ACORP forms more than 1 year after a newer one becomes available, although protocols already approved by the IACUC less than 1 year after release of a newer version will be accepted for Just-In-Time review for three years after approval by the IACUC.

General Instructions:

Answer each question by completing the table provided or entering the requested information at the ►. Enter “N/A” for any item that does not apply to this protocol. The sections of the form will expand as needed.

To check an item, type “X” inside the ( ) provided.

Define each abbreviation the first time it is used.

Rows may be added to any of the tables in the form – to add a row to the bottom of a table, position the cursor in the far right cell of the bottom row, and press <Tab>. All Table Tools available when the cursor is placed in the table are also active.

**Header for Every Page.** Enter the same information in the header for this appendix as is entered in the header for the Main Body of the ACORP to which it applies, to identify each page of this Appendix with that ACORP:

PI’s last name

Protocol No. Assigned by the IACUC – a unique identifier for each protocol, to be assigned locally by the IACUC of Record to the protocol as a whole

Official Date of Approval – the date of final and unequivocal approval by the IACUC, as defined in the PHS Assurance, which determines the due dates of the first annual continuing review and the triennial *de novo* review, as applicable

1. **Full name(s) of Principal Investigator(s).** Give the full name(s) of the Principal Investigator(s), who are responsible for the use of animals on this protocol.
2. **Explosive agents to be used.** Identify each explosive agent to be used on this protocol, either within the animal facility (regardless of whether the agents will be administered to animals) or administered to animals (regardless of where the administration to the animals will be performed).
	1. Identify the explosive agents – Give all names used in this ACORP to refer to each agent, then describe the MSDS on file for each agent, including the primary name of the agent shown on the MSDS, the CAS registry number for the agent, and the location of the MSDS on file.
	2. Locations where the explosive agents will be used – Identify the building(s) and room number(s) where each of the agents will be used, indicating whether each location is within the VMU or outside of the VMU.
	3. Procedure(s) to be performed – The use of explosive agents in the animal research facility is prohibited unless the IACUC and the Subcommittee on Research Safety (SRS) grant local approval. That approval should only be granted under exceptional circumstances, when scientific reasons preclude the use of non-explosive alternatives. Describe the reasons that this use of explosive agents should be approved.
	4. Precautions to be taken to prevent explosions – Before approving the ACORP, the IACUC must ensure that all reasonable precautions to prevent explosions are to be taken. These precautions generally include, but need not be limited to, the following:
		1. Use of the agents only within a properly operating, ventilated safety hood.
		2. Locating and powering outside the hood any electrical equipment to be used with such agents.
		3. Storage only in an explosion-proof refrigerator or freezer.
		4. Provisions to ensure that all potentially explosive fumes have dissipated from animal carcasses and other objects before they are placed into storage.
		5. No disposal of empty containers or other items containing traces of any explosive agent by incineration or in receptacles for waste that is ordinarily incinerated.
	5. Period of use. Define the period of time over which the explosive agent(s) may be used, by specifying the earliest and latest dates on which they may be used:
	6. Animals that will be administered explosive agents – Describe any animals that will be administered any of the explosive agents listed in Item 2.a, above, noting the species, the range of average weights of individual animals to be treated, and the approximate number of animal subjects that will be administered the explosive agent(s). Note that any explosive agents to be administered to animals on this protocol must also be documented in Appendix 3.
3. **Personnel.** Identify each individual who will handle any of the explosive agents as part of this protocol, and describe the individual’s training and experience with regard to use of explosive agents. Note that any of these individuals who will be involved in administering any of the explosive agent(s) to animals must also be included in Item E of the main body of the ACORP.
4. **Signatures.** Provide the signatures required on the signature pages (Item Z.8) of the main body of this ACORP.