

PERIODIC CALIBRATION VERIFICATION OF ANESTHETIC VAPORIZERS USED INVOLVING RESEARCH ANIMALS

I. Purpose/Scope

The *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* states that exposure to anesthetic waste gases should be limited. The following policy was developed to ensure the proper functioning of anesthetic machines.

II. Resources

Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals

III. Policy

- A. It is recommended that isoflurane vaporizers be certified yearly and calibrated triennially. Certification is required at least triennially. Depending on the vaporizer assessment at the time of certification, calibration may also be required for proper function. Each vaporizer must be labeled with the date of servicing and the name of the company or individual that did the work.
- B. Any vaporizer must immediately be serviced and repaired if there is reason to believe that there is either leakage (e.g., odor of the drug detectable in the room when the vaporizer is in use) or the vaporizer appears out of calibration (e.g., a noticeable change in the amount of time or percentage of drug required to anesthetize animals).