Poster Number: 2

Reinventing a Postapproval Monitoring Program into a Collaborative Process that Ensures the Highest Standards of Animal Welfare

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Problem Statement:
Previously, the postapproval monitoring (PAM) process had been driven by the IACUC, who may not have experience monitoring procedures. Members were asked to volunteer to observe procedures, and, as a result, there was no consistency in how PAMs were conducted, there was little communication between the individuals who observed the procedures, and investigators were often distracted and nervous during the procedures.

Description of the research:
There was an opportunity to re-brand the PAM process using a dedicated team of individuals (could be the Animal Welfare team/VS team or other team that makes the best sense based on the organizational structure). This started with educating the IACUC and investigative groups on the new process, which would be driven by the new group along with members of the Veterinary Sciences department. Other key components of the rebranding included creating new templates for email communications and PAM documentation, establishing a forum for keeping the IACUC informed of PAMs and providing best practices. By creating a more collaborative approach with PAMs, we created a more open culture where investigators look forward to a PAM so they can be sure the highest quality of animal care is employed in their work every day.