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The American Physiological Society (APS) announces the Publication of a Resource Book for the Design of Animal Exercise Protocols intended for researchers, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees (IACUCs), and those involved with research oversight. The authoring committee, which was comprised of exercise physiologists and laboratory animal veterinarians, reviewed reference material and drew upon their own experience to compile suggestions about how to design, review, and implement experimental paradigms involving animals and exercise.

The APS Resource Book is intended to promote an informed dialogue that can help researchers and their IACUCs arrive at satisfactory answers to questions about how to assure the welfare of animals in exercise research protocols.

Topics addressed in the APS Resource Book include general concerns such as selecting appropriate animal models for exercise research, study design considerations, animal stress, working with compromised animals, and the impact of surgery on exercise. (See excerpts from the Table of Contents at the right).

In addition to some 400 citations, the book includes appendices on hind limb suspension and immobilization of rats and mice and a set of sample animal exercise protocol review scenarios.

TO ORDER: NIH's Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) sponsored the development of the APS Resource Book, and single copies are available free of charge from OLAW while supplies last. Contact OLAW@od.nih.gov to request a free copy.

Copies may also be purchased for $9.50 each from the APS. To order, go to the APS website at: www.the-aps.org/store/

The PDF of the book is available online at http://www.the-aps.org/pa/action/exercise/

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