



April 5, 2012

TO: Addressees

FROM: Deputy Director for Intramural Research

SUBJECT: Policy on the Purchase of Custom Antibodies - REVISED

Custom antibodies must be purchased from a vendor that has an active PHS Assurance.

The care and use of animals in research is highly regulated to ensure their welfare and humane use. It is important that all IRP staff comply with Federal laws, regulations and policies related to the use of animals and animal products such as the purchase of customized antibodies (serum, purified or monoclonal). As such, our federal regulatory oversight entity, the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), considers the generation of custom antibodies to be an activity covered by Public Health Service Policy. Antibodies are considered *customized* if produced using antigen(s) provided by an NIH investigator or at the request of an NIH investigator (i.e., not purchased as a pre-made catalog item off-the-shelf).

The purchase of custom antibodies with a credit card or other simplified acquisition mechanism without your IC's Animal Care and Use Committee involvement is permitted. A vendor's PHS Assurance status can be verified on the OLAW website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>, under "OLAW Fast Facts; Assured Institutions". If the vendor is not listed on the OLAW website, further assistance can be provided by contacting your IC Intramural Administrative Officer or the NIH intramural Office of Animal Care and Use: secoacu@od.nih.gov; 301-496-5424. Additionally, a list of commonly used, assured commercial vendors is enclosed with this memo.

Please direct questions or comments regarding the intent or contents of this memorandum to your IC Intramural Administrative Officer or to the NIH intramural Office of Animal Care and Use.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael M. Gottesman".

Michael M. Gottesman, M.D.

Enclosure

Addressees:

IC Directors and Scientific Directors

IC Lab/Branch Chiefs

IC ACUC Members and Animal Program Directors

NIH Intramural Principal Investigators and Animal Users

NIH Intramural Credit Card Holders and Card Approving Officials

NIH Intramural Administrative Officers

PHS Assured Custom Antibody Vendors

Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPA): Some vendors have an NIH wide BPA which may provide more competitive prices for custom antibody production. On the BPA Program website open the current 'BPA Commodity List' and use the 'animal services', 'biological materials' or 'blood/blood products' tabs to search for these vendors. If a vendor is listed, the purchaser should inquire of the vendor if an NIH discount is offered.

[BPA Program website: http://oamp.od.nih.gov/division/saps/Acq/PCard/BPAProgram.asp](http://oamp.od.nih.gov/division/saps/Acq/PCard/BPAProgram.asp)

Custom antibody vendors that hold a PHS Assurance and desire to be added to this list should contact the NIH Intramural Office of Animal Care and Use: secoacu@od.nih.gov; or 301-496-5424.

Vendor	Location	PHS Assurance#
A&G Pharmaceutical, Inc.	MD	A4404-01
Advance BioScience Labs	MD	A3467-01
Alpha Genesis, Inc.	SC	A3645-01
Antibody Research Corporation	MO	A4489-01
Aves Lab	OR	A4232-01
Bethyl Laboratories	TX	A3991-01
Capralogics	MA	A4079-01
Cell Signaling Technology	MA	A4292-01
Charles River	Various	A3863-01
Cocalico Biologicals	PA	A3669-01
Covance Custom Immunology Services	Denver, PA	A3850-01
GeneTel Laboratories LLC	WI	A4489-01
Harlan Laboratories Inc.	Multiple	A3738-01
Lampire Biological Laboratories	PA	A3997-01
Open Biosystems/Pierce Biotechnology Inc.	AL	A3669-01
Pocono Rabbit Farm & Laboratory, Inc.	PA	A3886-01
ProSci, Inc.	CA	A4550-01
Rockland Immunochemicals, Inc.	PA	A4062-01
Spring Valley Lab	MD	A3046-01
Strategic Diagnostics (SDIX)/Strategic Biosolutions	DE	A3975-01
Univ. of TX/MDACC, Keeling Cnt. for Comptv. Med. & Rsch	TX	A3343-01
Washington Biotechnology, Inc.	MD	A4192-01

Revised 03/27/2012

NOTE: For more information, see the [NIH Purchase of Custom Antibodies Policy Memo](#)