

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

ADC Directive

2.430 3/26/93

EUTHANIZING AND IMMOBILIZING AGENTS

1. PURPOSE

To ensure that ADC personnel receive adequate training to use euthanizing and immobilizing agents in a professional and proper manner and in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

2. BACKGROUND

Certain drugs are approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to immobilize or euthanize animals and are regulated under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Some of these drugs are also regulated under the Controlled Substance Act of 1970. Drugs regulated under the Controlled Substance Act have a potential for being dangerous and addictive, e.g. 1 narcotics, sedatives, tranquilizers, etc. The Controlled Substance Act of 1970 places dangerous drugs in categories known as schedules and specifies regulations for their possession, use, and dispensing. The only persons who can legally possess scheduled substances are those registered with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) or those possessing a prescription. Both FDA and DEA set standards for accountability and storage requirements. The ADC Deputy Administrator has established a Drug Committee to review and approve euthanizing and immobilizing agents and training requirements for ADC.

3. POLICY

All ADC employees using euthanizing or immobilizing agents must receive adequate training in accordance with Drug Committee guidelines. Only drugs and training programs approved by the ADC Immobilizing/Euthanasia Committee (ADC Drug Committee) are eligible to be used by the ADC program (Attachment I).

ADC personnel needing to use drug agents other than those listed in Attachment 1 should contact the ADC Drug Committee (Attachment 2) to determine if the drug meets guidelines necessary for ADC certification.

4. RESPONSIBILITY

State Directors are responsible for ADC use of euthanizing or immobilizing agents within their State. The State Director will ensure that all personnel using these agents receive adequate training in accordance with Drug Committee guidelines. The Director of the Denver Wildlife Research Center has the same responsibility as State Directors.

All acquisition, storage, and use of euthanizing and immobilizing agents will be in compliance with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

5. REFERENCES

Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301-392), as amended Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801) 21 CFR

Part 511- New Animal Drugs for Investigational Use

Section 511.1- New animal drugs for Investigational use exempt from section 412(a) of the Act

Part 51,4 -New Animal Drug Applications

Section 514.1(b)8 -Evidence to establish safety and effectiveness

Part 1301- Registration of Manufacturers, Distributors, and Dispensers of Controlled Substances

Section 1301.21- Persons required to register

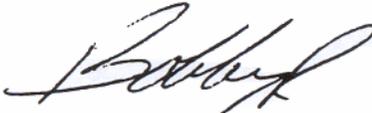
Section 1301.22 -Separate registration for independent activities

Section 1301.90- Employee screening procedures

Part 1308- Schedules of Controlled Substances

Section 1308.03- Administration Controlled Substances Code Number

Sections 1308.11- 1308.15 Schedules I-V



Administrator 

Attachments

Attachment 1
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ADC APPROVED IMMOBILIZING/EUTHANIZING AGENTS*

The list below contains immobilizing and euthanizing agents/drugs which are certified by the ADC Drug Committee for ADC use. Agents or drugs not listed must be approved and certified by the ADC Drug Committee prior to use. Depending on the situation, listed drugs may be used independently or in combination.

Scheduled drugs are regulated by the DEA. All drugs used on or in animals, even if not scheduled, must be approved for use by the FDA Both FDA and DEA set standards for accountability and storage requirements.

a. Immobilizing Agent Suitable for Wildlife

(1) **Ketamine HCL + Xylazine**

Unscheduled drugs, regulated by FDA. California and subject to regulation. Schedule **III** drug in Feral Dogs, Mountain Lions, Bears, Elk, Mule Deer, White-tailed Deer, Foxes, Coyotes, Raccoons, Skunks, and Wolves.

(2) **Telazol18* (Tiletamine HCL + Zolazepam)**

Schedule III drug, regulated by DEA and FDA

Raccoon, Buffalo, Wolves, Bears, White-tailed Deer, Mountain Lions, and Feral Swine.

(3) Ketamine HCL + Acepromazine

Unscheduled drugs, regulated by FDA. California and subject to regulation.
Schedule III drug in Feral Swine.

(4) Alpha-chloralose

Unscheduled drug, regulated by FDA.

Waterfowl, Coots, and Pigeons

b. Euthanizing Agents Suitable for Wildlife

Approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association as euthanizing agents. Some agents, e.g., potassium chloride, may require that the animal be anesthetized prior to administering the euthanizing agent.

(1) Beuthanasia- (Sodium Pentobarbital)

Schedule III drug, regulated by DEA and FDA.

Registered for euthanization of dogs, but legally may be used on other animals if the animal is not intended for human consumption.

(2) Potassium chloride

A common laboratory chemical used as an unregulated drug. Safety hazards and security responsibilities are minimal. Animals must be anesthetized prior to administration of potassium chloride.

(3) Carbon monoxide

Unregulated gas that is commonly used as method of euthanasia for many species.

(4) Carbon dioxide

Unregulated gas that is commonly used as method of euthanasia for many species.

* Some of the drug names are trade names and may be available under different names from different companies. This list is subject to change. The lists of species are not meant to be inclusive.