

Durametrix: Animal Welfare Oversight & Compliance Statement

Our Commitment to Ethical Research

At Durametrix, we recognize that the use of animals in research is a fundamental privilege that carries a significant ethical responsibility. As a multidisciplinary leader in imaging-based solutions and drug discovery, we are dedicated to the highest standards of animal welfare. Our commitment ensures that scientific innovation for our pharmaceutical partners and federal sponsors—including the **National Institutes of Health (NIH)** and the **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**—is achieved through humane, transparent, and legally compliant practices.

1. Regulatory Framework & Standards

Durametrix maintains a rigorous oversight framework to ensure that all research, whether conducted internally or through our network of premier university subcontractors, adheres to the gold standards of laboratory animal science:

- **The Guide:** Strict adherence to the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (NRC).
- **PHS Policy:** Full compliance with the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.
- **Federal Law:** Strict alignment with the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) and all applicable USDA regulations.

2. Managed Oversight of University Subcontractors

Durametrix serves as the primary compliance anchor for all subcontracted studies. We bridge the gap between academic research environments and the stringent 'due diligence' requirements of the pharmaceutical industry. Our oversight includes:

- **Institutional Verification:** We ensure every subcontracted university maintains a valid PHS Assurance and USDA Registration.
- **IACUC Governance:** All study protocols undergo rigorous review and approval by an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) to ensure ethical justification and protocol adherence.
- **Continuous Monitoring:** We maintain active engagement with university Attending Veterinarians (AVs) to ensure consistent clinical care and environmental standards across all study sites.

3. Innovation Through the Three Rs (3Rs)

At Durametrix, we leverage our proprietary imaging technologies to directly support the principles of Replacement, Reduction, and Refinement:

- Replacement: We actively seek in vitro and computer-based models to avoid animal use whenever scientifically valid.
- Reduction: Our advanced imaging solutions often allow for longitudinal studies in the same subject, significantly reducing the total number of animals required to achieve statistically robust data for NIH and Pharma milestones.
- Refinement: We utilize non-invasive imaging and refined procedural techniques to minimize animal distress and enhance the physiological stability of our models, ensuring higher-quality translational data.

4. Accountability and Data Integrity

We foster a 'Culture of Care' that prioritizes animal well-being as a prerequisite for scientific excellence.

- Federal Transparency: As an NIH/HHS contractor, we uphold all reporting requirements mandated by the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW).
- B2B Assurance: We provide our pharmaceutical partners with the assurance that their projects are insulated from regulatory risk through our proactive subcontractor auditing and quality management processes.
- Reporting: Durametrix enforces a strict policy for the prompt reporting of any welfare concerns, supported by non-retaliatory whistleblower protections at all participating facilities.