

RESEARCH PARTICIPANT WAIVER OF SIGNED CONSENT FORM

Training programs for laboratory animal personnel: a focus on rat tickling
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Key Information

Please take time to review this information carefully. This is a research study. Your participation in this study is voluntary which means that you may choose not to participate at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You may ask questions to the researchers about the study whenever you would like. If you decide to take part in the study, you will be asked to sign this form, be sure you understand what you will do and any possible risks or benefits.

This project is designed to investigate the efficacy of different types of training programs for laboratory animal personnel, focusing on rat tickling. We are conducting this study to understand the effectiveness and differences between targeted online and online + hands-on training programs about laboratory animal handling and welfare for laboratory animal personnel. There will therefore be three possible groups you could be assigned to: a control condition (work as usual), online-only training (online training course in rat tickling), online + hands-on training (online course + hands-on training in rat tickling). The research project will take approximately 3 months, which includes 3 online surveys and up to 2 hours of training.

What is the purpose of this study?

You are being asked to participate to determine your attitudes, self-efficacy, knowledge, and implementation of rat tickling. We would like to enroll 500 participants in this study.

What will I do if I choose to be in this study?

You will be asked to complete an **online questionnaire** at 3 times over 3 months. The questionnaire will ask questions about your attitudes, self-efficacy, knowledge, and implementation of rat tickling. You may skip any question you do not feel comfortable answering and you may stop participating in this study at any time.

Depending on which group you are assigned to **you may also be asked to complete an online certificate course and a hands-on tickling training session.**

How long will I be in the study?

Each questionnaire is expected to take about 10-15 minutes to complete. The online training is expected to take about 30 minutes to complete. The hands-on training is expected to take about 1 hour to complete. Therefore, your total time commitment will be between 30 minutes (control group) to 2 hours (online + hands-on training group)

What are the possible risks or discomforts?

The risks involved in this study are considered minimal, as they do not exceed those that are encountered in your daily life. However, you may feel uncomfortable when answering questions about your work life. Breach of confidentiality is always a risk with data, but we will take precautions to minimize this risk as described in the confidentiality section.

Are there any potential benefits?

If you are assigned to participate in online-only or online + hands-on training, you may learn about rat tickling. If you are assigned to the control group, you will gain access to online course materials after the completion of the study. Furthermore, the results of this study may help

support further development of training programs for laboratory animal personnel, and, in turn, improve animal welfare.

Will I receive payment or other incentive?

You will have the option to be entered into a drawing to receiving \$40 cash or amazon gift card at the end of the study. Each survey completion will earn you one entry into this drawing. According to the rules of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), payments that are made to you as a result of your participation in a study may be considered taxable income. Your odds of winning will be at least 1 in 50.

Are there costs to me for participation?

There are no anticipated costs to participate in this research.

This section provides more information about the study

Will information about me and my participation be kept confidential?

The project's research records may be reviewed by the study sponsor - Animal Welfare Institute, US DHHS Office for Human Research Protections, and by departments at Purdue University responsible for regulatory and research oversight. Your name and identifying information will never be shared with anyone outside the research team. Following data collection, all identifying information (such as names and emails) will be kept separate from survey responses. All data will be stored electronically – coded ONLY with an identifier we will assign for this project, in restricted access directories. Only project staff with a need to know your identifying information will have access to any identifying information (primarily to enable payment and follow up reminders for data collection). In addition, all identifying information will be destroyed within five years after the completion of the study.

What are my rights if I take part in this study?

You do not have to participate in this research project. If you agree to participate, you may withdraw your participation or any collected data without penalty by simply notifying study staff. Once the data is de-identified and the code key is destroyed you will be unable to withdraw your data from the study. There are no consequences from withdrawing from the study.

Your decision to participate or not in the research will have no effect on your relationship with any host institution for the workshops or your employer.

Who can I contact if I have questions about the study?

If you have questions, comments or concerns about this research project, you can talk to one of the researchers. Please contact the first point of contact, Megan LaFollette via email at lafollet@purdue.edu. The PI Dr. Brianna Gaskill is also available at 765-496-1866.

To report anonymously via Purdue's Hotline see www.purdue.edu/hotline

If you have questions about your rights while taking part in the study or have concerns about the treatment of research participants, please call the Human Research Protection Program at (765) 494-5942, email (irb@purdue.edu) or write to:

Human Research Protection Program - Purdue University
Ernest C. Young Hall, Room 1032
155 S. Grant St.
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2114

Documentation of Waived Signed Consent

I have had the opportunity to read this information and have the research study explained. I have had the opportunity to ask questions about the research study, and my questions have been answered. I am prepared to participate in the research study described above.