

**RESOLUTION 5—2020**  
**Regular Annual Session**

Submitted by Board of Directors

**REVISED POLICY ON TRANSPORTATION OF RESEARCH ANIMALS FOR THE PURPOSE  
OF RESEARCH, TESTING, AND EDUCATION**

**RESOLVED**, that the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) House of Delegates (HOD) adopt the revised policy on Transportation of Research Animals for the Purpose of Research, Testing, and Education as noted below (additions are underlined; deletions are ~~struckthrough~~).

**Transportation of research animals for the purpose of ~~biomedical~~ research, testing, and education**

The AVMA supports the transportation of animals for research, testing, and education when that transportation is conducted in accord with regulations and guidelines that assure animals are handled appropriately per age and species needs and transport is conducted humanely. This transportation of research animals refers to any movement of all animals intended for use in biomedical research, testing, and/or education from one facility (dedicated breeding or research) to another. This includes purpose-bred animals, legally obtained random-source animals, hoof stock, and genetically altered (e.g., transgenic and knock-out) animals. The AVMA supports the transportation of animals for research, testing and education when that transportation is conducted in accord with guidelines that assure animals are handled properly and transport is conducted humanely. Those handling the animals during transport must be well trained and competent in performing tasks and making related decisions related to the welfare of the animal(s) during the transport.

Veterinarians are responsible for ensuring the appropriate transportation of animals for research, testing, and education, and therefore should be involved in the evaluation of specific transportation methods. Both air and ground transportation methods should be available in order to select the method(s) that provide the highest degree of animal welfare protection, taking into consideration the animal species and particular transportation situation.

**Statement about the Resolution**

The Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) reviewed this policy in accordance with the every-five-year review directive. The current revision proposed eliminates unnecessary repetition while also clarifying the intent. A statement regarding the AVMA stance on transportation of research animals for research, testing and education was moved from the body of the policy to the first sentence.

Additional language was added as recommended by the American Society of Laboratory Animal Practitioners to address the veterinarian's role in these transportation situations in order to protect animal welfare.

**Financial Impact:** None.

	<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>House Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Reference Committee #</b>	<b>House of Delegates</b>
<b>Recommend Approval</b>	X	X	X	X as amended
<b>Recommend Disapproval</b>				
<b>Recommend Referral to...</b>				
<b>No Recommendation</b>				
<b>Recommend Postpone Indefinitely</b>				
(use this space for additional narrative, if needed)				
Per Reference Committee #2, moved that the policy be amended by striking the word "biomedical" from the title and adding the words "regulations and" to the first sentence.				