

Procedure for Obtaining Buprenorphine ER

Prescriptions can be obtained by contacting Danielle Keeton, LVT at keetond@vcu.edu. In your prescription request, be sure to include the following information:

- PI name
- Approved IACUC protocol number
- Delivery address
- Phone number for contact
- Prescription request
- Quantity of vials requested
- Number of refills the researcher may need in a 6-month period
- Species
- DOB of animals
- Average weight of animals

The following will then occur:

- 1) The VCU veterinarian confirms the drug is approved to use in the researcher's IACUC protocol and provides Wedgewood Pharmacy with their DEA registration information.
- 2) The VCU veterinarian writes a prescription for Buprenorphine ER to a specific researcher for a specific species or herd (mice, rats, rabbits, etc.). The prescription aligns with the researcher's approved IACUC protocol.
- 3) The VCU veterinarian submits the prescription to Wedgewood Pharmacy and notifies the researcher of submission.
- 4) Two hours (or later) after submitting the prescription, the researcher contacts Wedgewood Pharmacy at [877-357-6613](tel:877-357-6613) to provide payment details (credit card or prepaid check required).
- 5) Wedgewood Pharmacy fills and ships the prescription directly to the researcher.
- 6) The researcher uses the drug as prescribed and/or described in their IACUC protocol. OVPRI recommends that researchers maintain a usage log for this drug. As a reminder, the prescription drug is NOT to be included in the researcher's DEA Controlled Substances Inventory.
- 7) The researcher must store the drug in a separate locked cabinet, apart from any DEA controlled substances they may have.

Buprenorphine ER may become an approved controlled substance. At that point, the process for obtaining, using, and tracking Buprenorphine ER will be no different from any other Schedule II-V controlled substance. Until then, the above-described procedure will remain in effect.