A. Purpose
To clarify the requirements for submission of an Animal Subjects Approval Form (ASAF) for teaching, research activities or research trials involving client-owned animals.

B. Background
Client-owned animals are those in which the University (WSU) has no ownership, so final stewardship responsibility resides with the animal’s owner. Treatment involving normal veterinary clinical care or management of client-owned animals is not regulated by the Animal Welfare Act, and therefore does not require approval by IACUC to meet Federal regulations. However, ensuring the protection of animal subjects and the interests of WSU and its faculty and staff requires consistent animal care management. Accordingly, under limited circumstances, some teaching and research use of client-owned animals requires submitting an ASAF, with approval by the IACUC prior to start of the animal activity.

C. Policy
Teaching and research activities involving client-owned animals are exempt from IACUC approval if ALL the following conditions are met:
1. The animals do not belong to Washington State University, but instead to a pet owner, farmer, rancher, or other private entity.
2. No disease or problem is being induced in the animals. A disease may spontaneously occur in these animals and receive treatment, but it is not induced.
3. Any activity is incidental to the clinical treatment or other management of the animals in accordance with what a practicing veterinarian, pet owner, or farmer/rancher would perform on their clients’ animals or on their own animals.
4. IACUC approval is not required as a condition of award from an outside funding agency.
All four conditions must apply for the activity to be exempt from IACUC approval.

D. Documentation
Client consent forms are required when client owned animals are used in teaching and research. The IACUC template consent form can be obtained from here: http://www.iacuc.wsu.edu/forms.asp

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