Which one is the current legal, official name?

1. American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC)
2. Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC International)
3. AAALAC International
AAALAC International

- Not-for-profit
- Non-governmental
- Does not establish standards/policies

The only organization that assesses and accredits animal care and use program for research, teaching and testing around the globe.

www.aaalac.org

2019 AAALAC International Organizational Chart

AAALAC International conducts inspections or audits of laboratory animal care and use facilities!
Site Visit ≠ Inspection (Peer Review)
Site Visit = Expert Understanding + Customer Service

**Documentation Review**
- Program Description (PD)
- Policies and SOPs
- IACUC (AEC) records, protocols,…
- OHS records
- Personnel training records
- Animals and animal room records
- Facility system records: HVAC,…

**Facility Tour**
- Suitable and safe facility
- Animal health & welfare
- Research quality
- Animals
- Animal care & use practices/performance
- Consistency and safety
- Meet and talk to personnel

The entire process is completely confidential.

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**FACT**
AAALAC International Site Visitors evaluate laboratory animal care and use programs through a voluntary, peer-review process. The onsite evaluation is called the “Site Visit.”

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Current 16 Council members and 68 ad hoc Specialists in the Pacific Rim Region

There are 68 ad hoc Specialists located in Pacific Rim countries
- Australia: 5
- P.R. China: 17
- India: 13
- Indonesia: 3
- Japan: 10
- Republic of Korea: 7
- Malaysia: 2
- New Zealand: 1
- Singapore: 4
- Taiwan R.O.C.: 3
- Thailand: 4
Apply to become ad hoc Specialists
February 1, 2020 deadline!

We do not have any animals present at the institution on the Site Visit day. We think that the AAALAC Site Visitors will accept to see the facilities only.

Criteria for Accreditation

- AAALAC International accredits active animal care and use programs.
- An active animal care and use program includes: animals; facilities; equipment; professional, technical, and administrative support; and policies and programs for institutional responsibilities, animal husbandry and veterinary care.
Myth or Fact?

- We have a new, state-of-the-art facility and equipment. The AAALAC International accreditation focuses on the building. We believe that we are ready to seek AAALAC International accreditation.

Animal Care and Use Program

- IO Guidelines
- Policies
- Procedures
- AV Scientists
- Vet Med Care
- and Husbandry Personnel
- IACUC
- OHSP
- Facility Equipment Management and Maintenance
- Protocols Records
- Local laws and Regulations Compliance

Myth or Fact?

- AAALAC International evaluates animal care and use programs that only use common laboratory animals (rodents and rabbits).
Rules of Accreditation

Section 1. Definitions

Animals

- All animals used or to be used in research, teaching or testing at accreditable units are to be included and evaluated in accordance with the standards set forth in Section 2 of these Rules.
- These include traditional laboratory animals, farm animals, wildlife, and aquatic animals.
- Nontraditional animals, inclusive of invertebrate species, are also included where they are relevant to the unit's mission.

 Myth or Fact?

If our institution has several buildings and we own rodents, dogs, pigs, cattle and fishes, we can request evaluation of our newest building housing only rodents. We can omit other species and older buildings!

Accreditable Unit

- The appropriate administrative entity making application is the accreditable unit, and its animal care and use programs and facilities are evaluated to determine accreditation status.
Animal Ownership

Rules of Accreditation

All animal programs and facilities of the accreditable unit must be included in the application and evaluated...

Program Description (PD) and Site Visit

All animals owned by the institution:
• At all buildings
• At satellite facilities, and investigator laboratories
• At contractor’s facility if the contractor’s program is not AAALAC accredited

AAALAC follows animal ownership in terms of defining who is responsible for animals at an offsite program (AAALAC FAQ, http://www.aaalac.org/accreditation/faq_landing.cfm#A1)

Myth or Fact?

- Our university’s animal care and use program is AAALAC International accredited.
- When we collaborate with other AAALAC International accredited programs, we do not need any written document or an agreement regarding the animal welfare and oversight.

Collaborations (Page 15)

- Inter-institutional collaboration has the potential to create ambiguities regarding responsibility for animal care and use.
- In cases of collaborations between institutions that involves animal use, institutions should have a formal written understanding (contracts, MOU, or agreement..) between the institutions.
- The written agreement should address:
  • The responsibility for offsite animal care and use
  • Animal ownership
  • IACUC review and oversight
Question?

- If we rent a room at another CRO facility that is an AAALAC International accredited program, we do not need to include the room information in our Program Description for the Site Visit.
  - This room will not be visited by AAALAC SV Team.
  - We plan to have the contract ready for the site visitors to review.

Animal Ownership

- AAALAC follows animal ownership in terms of defining who is responsible for animals at an offsite program.
- If the contractor's program is not AAALAC accredited, a description of the animal care and use activities and facilities provided by the contract facility must be included in your Program Description.
  - The contract facility would also be visited by AAALAC site visitors.
  - The contractual agreements must provide for the review by AAALAC site visitors

Myth or Fact?

- The laboratory animal center at my university serves 12 faculties.
  - There are 28 satellite animal rooms.
  - A few faculties do not want to participate in AAALAC International accreditation.
  - Will it be possible that one, a few or some faculties independently seek AAALAC International accreditation?
Resource organizations that provide animal care and related services are not permitted to seek accreditation independently of academic units such as schools, colleges, independent research components, or other academic units.

If such a resource unit serves a school, college, etc. that is seeking accreditation, then the resource must be included in the application and evaluated. Such a resource may also serve other units that are not accredited.

Total Accredited Academic Institutions in Pacific Rim (32 of 199 units, 16.1%)

- Australia (1): Animal Care Service, University of Western Australia
- Indonesia (1): Bogor U., Primate Research Center
- Japan (3): Faculty of Veterinary Medicine - Hokkaido U., Kagoshima University, Yamaguchi U.
- Korea (9): Seoul National U., Yonsei U., Gachon U., Pusan National U., College of Medicine – The Catholic U. of Korea
- Malaysia (1): Faculty of Medicine - University of Malaya
- Taiwan ROC (2): NDMC Laboratory Animal Center, National Taiwan University College of Medicine
- Thailand (4): National Laboratory Animal Center, MU, Faculty of Science, MU, Naresuan University and Chiang Mai University
Six Campus-Wide Accredited Academic Institutions in Pacific Rim

- National University of Singapore (NUS)
- Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (OIST)
- National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (NPUST)
- Thammasat University (TU)
- Kaohsiung Medical University
- Chang Gung University

Types of Accredited Institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Total Units</th>
<th>Commercial</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Non-Profit</th>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Hospital</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.R. China</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan R.O.C.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage (%)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>65.8</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Myth or Fact?

- A small animal program that has only one animal room and a few staff is not allowed to seek AAALAC International accreditation.
Accredited institutions Breakdown by Group Category
(Total 1,013 units, updated May 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Square Feet</th>
<th>Square Meter</th>
<th>Accredited Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>&lt; 1,000</td>
<td>&lt; 93</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>1,000 – 9,999</td>
<td>94 - 929</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>10,000 – 24,999</td>
<td>930 - 2,322</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>25,000 – 49,999</td>
<td>2,323 - 4,646</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>50,000 – 99,999</td>
<td>4,646 - 9,290</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>100,000 – 199,999</td>
<td>9,291 – 18,580</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>200,000 – 499,999</td>
<td>18,581 – 46,451</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII</td>
<td>&gt;500,000</td>
<td>&gt; 46,452</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Myth or Fact?

- Evaluation process by AAALAC International in Pacific Rim region is different from USA, Europe or other parts of the world!

Question?

Our country has stringent animal welfare regulations and generally very high standards. When we prepare the Program Description (PD), we refer to all the regulations and this is sufficient.

Yes: NO
Fact!

Local regulations are always used as the basic requirements for AAALAC International accreditation.

Where there may be gaps or areas not covered, AAALAC harmonizes standards internationally by referring to Guide recommendations and AAALAC Reference Resources.

Standards Used for AAALAC Assessment

Choose one of these 3 Primary Standards that is most suitable

- AAALAC International's Reference Resources
- Institutional Guidelines and Policies
- National Legislation and Policy
- Local Animal Welfare Law

AAALAC International Reference Resources

http://www.aaalac.org/accreditation/resources.cfm
AAALAC International uses the same assessment process to evaluate animal programs in any country around the world!

**Accreditation Process**

- Request or download application package
- PD Preparation
- Submit Program Description (PD)
- Pay an application fee
- Site Visit: 1 COA member + 1 ad hoc (peer review, on-site evaluation)
- Site Visit Report
- Unit submits Post site visit communications (PSVC) (correcting mandatory deficiencies and addressing improvement issues)
- Unit submitted Post site visit communications (PSVC) (correcting mandatory deficiencies and addressing improvement issues)
- Reviewed by 4 Council members
- Council's deliberation, 3 meetings/year (January, May, and September)

A letter to the institution includes: commendation, accreditation result, acknowledgment, [Conditions, mandatory and SFIs] (clarification and retraction)

**Findings**

- **Mandatory Item** = a deficiency which must be corrected for Full Accreditation to be awarded or continued
- **Suggestion for Improvement (SFI)** = an item which the Council feels is desirable to upgrade an already acceptable or even commendable program
Myth or Fact?

- The AAALAC International site visit evaluation report of any institution is available to the general public!

FACT

AAALAC International’s accreditation process is confidential. The evaluation and its results are known solely by the institution and the AAALAC International website lists only the accredited institutional names.

Question?

Our animal care and use program voluntarily participates in AAALAC International accreditation. Our program continues to improve with the re-evaluation (Site Visit) every three years!
Most findings at the exit briefing are corrected by post site visit communications (PSVCs)

- 87.6% Findings corrected by PSVC
- 12.4% Findings retained in the letter

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Myth or Fact?
At the site visit, all findings (whether few, some or many issues) will be shared with us at the exit briefing. So, we know what they all are! We can address those findings and inform our plan to correct the issues within 10 working days after the site visit.

- **YES**
- **NO**

---

Potential Outcomes at Council Deliberation

**New Applicant Institutions**

- *Award Full Accreditation*
- *Award Accreditation with Condition(s)*
  - Correction within ... month (at the discretion of Council)
- *Provisional Status* (Mandatory Item(s) - Correction within 24 months)
- *Withhold Accreditation*

**Accredited Institutions - Revisit**

- *Continued Full Accreditation*
- *Conditional Accreditation*
  - Correction within ... month (at the discretion of Council)
- *Deferred Accreditation* (Mandatory Item(s) - Correction within 2 months)
- *Probationary Accreditation* (Mandatory Item(s) - Correction within 12 months)
- *Revoke Accreditation*

*green color indicates that the unit is accredited*
AAALAC International Expectation

- AAALAC’s purpose is to provide an open, fair and impartial peer-evaluation that results in valuable suggestions and information organizations will use to improve their programs and achieve new levels of excellence.
- To encourage frank and forthright dialogue that results in real advances in animal care, AAALAC assures its program participants that none of the details of their evaluations will be made public by AAALAC. However, if the institution chooses to release the details itself, it is free to do so.

Myth or Fact?

- We can submit the Program Description to seek AAALAC International evaluation at any time!
- We may request certain dates to host the Site Visit at our convenience in advance, but will need to discuss this with the AAALAC International office.

The Accreditation Trimester Schedule
(Program Description Submission Deadlines)

AAALAC International conducts its evaluations on a trimester (every four months) schedule...
Fee Structures 2019

The 2019 application and annual fee schedules are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group #</th>
<th>Number of square feet (if animal facility)</th>
<th>2019 Application Fee (U.S. dollars)</th>
<th>2019 Annual Fee (U.S. dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.</td>
<td>&lt; 1,000</td>
<td>&lt; 93</td>
<td>$4,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II.</td>
<td>1,000 - 4,999</td>
<td>94 - 929</td>
<td>$6,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III.</td>
<td>5,000 - 24,999</td>
<td>930 - 2,322</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV.</td>
<td>25,000 - 49,999</td>
<td>2,323 - 4,645</td>
<td>$8,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.</td>
<td>50,000 - 99,999</td>
<td>4,546 - 9,201</td>
<td>$10,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI.</td>
<td>100,000 - 199,999</td>
<td>9,206 - 18,280</td>
<td>$12,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII.</td>
<td>200,000 - 499,999</td>
<td>18,561 - 46,645</td>
<td>$15,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII.</td>
<td>&gt; 500,000</td>
<td>46,645</td>
<td>Negotiated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fact!

- We should look up information and references in the AAALAC International website, www.aaalac.org
- If we have any question, we should contact AAALAC International, accredit@aaalac.org or the Regional Director, Dr. Montip, montipg@aaalac.org
Future AAALAC International Activities in Asia

Please Save These Dates!

AFLAS 2020 in Chiang Mai: 22-26 Jun 2020

Thank You!

montipg@aaalac.org
accredit@aaalac.org
www.aaalac.org