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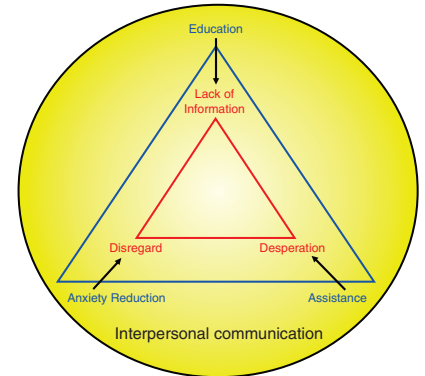
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## Noncompliance comes in threes

Despite clear-cut animal care and use protocols and detailed standard operating procedures, investigator noncompliance with institutional policies continues to be a problem at many animal research facilities. Jefcoat explores the practical, personal and interpersonal factors that that can lead to noncompliance. These factors generally fall into one of the following three main categories: Lack of Information, Desperation and Disregard. The author proposes specific strategies that veterinary staff and ACUC members can use to address each part of this 'Triad of Noncompliance'.

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## Making sense of sentience

When planning a research activity that might cause animals pain or distress, regulations and common sense direct investigators to use the least sentient species that can fulfill the aims of the experiment. The definition of sentience, however, remains highly controversial. Silverman discusses possible interpretations of the concept in relation to vertebrate phylogeny. The author emphasizes the importance of alleviating pain in all sentient species.

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## Anesthesia and the heart

Martin Barrasa and colleagues compared the effects of two protocols of combined general anesthesia by analyzing electrocardiographic changes in rats. Rats were anesthetized with ketamine combined with either medetomidine or diazepam before undergoing thoracic surgery. Investigators obtained an ECG from each rat before and after surgery. Both anesthetic combinations had some effects on the parameters measured but were generally appropriate for the procedure. The medetomidine-ketamine combination seemed to be safer than diazepam-ketamine and yielded a shorter recovery time, as the effects of medetomidine could be reversed with an injection of atipamezole.

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