



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-6910
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 402-7065

October 15, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3775-01 [OLAW Case 1H]

Ms. Heather Gipson-Cosier
Associate Vice Provost for Research Compliance
Tufts-University
Tufts Medical Center – Boston Campus
136 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02111

Dear Ms. Gipson-Cosier,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your October 5, 2018 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Tufts University. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that four mice failed to receive post-operative analgesia as per protocol, following osmotic pump implantation.

The corrective actions consisted of stopping additional surgeries, counseling the laboratory staff, ordering the appropriate analgesic, having the Principal Investigator (PI) retrain the students, and having the PI confer with the veterinary staff and collaborate with experienced surgeons at the institution.

OLAW understands that the protocol involved was not PHS-supported, but concurs that the incident was serious and supports the actions taken by the institution. The establishment and application of policies and practices that are consistent with the provisions of the PHS Policy at Tufts University are commendable and avoid the perception of a double standard. Thank you for informing OLAW about this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair



Office of the Vice Provost for Research
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Oct. 5, 2018

Dr. Axel Wolff
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)
National Institutes of Health
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Wolff:

We are writing to notify OLAW of the circumstances and actions taken with respect to the following issue of non-compliance, as required by the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (section IV.F.3). The Tufts University (Boston Campus) Assurance number is D16-00459 (A3775-01).

The following issue of non-compliance occurred under Dr. Nian-Qing Shi's IACUC protocol. Post-operative analgesia (one dose of Buprenorphine-SR) was not provided to four mice undergoing osmotic pump implantation, as required in the protocol.

Upon learning of the incident, Dr. Shi stopped all surgical activities while the situation was investigated. She discussed the situation with veterinary staff, the surgeon responsible, and the rest of the students in her lab. The PI immediately placed an order for the Buprenorphine SR and ordered a lock box to ensure proper storage of the controlled substance.

To prevent any future recurrences, the PI confirmed she would:

- Re-educate herself and her students on the mouse surgical protocol.
- Arrange additional meetings with DLAM veterinarians, if questions arise in the future.
- Explore a plan for future mouse surgeries with experienced surgeons in the Molecular Cardiology Research Institute (MCRI) at Tufts Medical Center.

At an IACUC meeting, the issue of non-compliance was voted to be significant and therefore reportable to OLAW. This letter provides a summary of the issue and resolution to OLAW as voted by the IACUC. There is no NIH funding for this research.

If you have any questions, please contact us. Thank you.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Heather Gipson-Coşier, JD
Associate Vice Provost for Research Compliance
Tufts University

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2018 10:24 AM
To: (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: Gipson-Cosier, Heather; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: OLAW Report - Tufts University D16-00459 (A3775-01)

Thank you for this report (b) (6) We will send an official response soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACLAM
Director
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health

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From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2018 9:51 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Gipson-Cosier, Heather <Heather.Cosier@tufts.edu>; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: OLAW Report - Tufts University D16-00459 (A3775-01)

Hello,

Please find attached a report letter regarding a significant issue of non-compliance at Tufts University, D16-00459 (A3775-01).

Regards,

(b) (6)