



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) 480-3377

April 17, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3377-01 [OLAW Case 7D]

Dr. David P. Norton  
Vice President for Research  
University of Florida  
(b) (4) Grinter Hall  
Gainesville, FL 32611-5500

Dear Dr. Norton,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your March 12, 2020 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Florida. This letter had not been preceded by a preliminary report to OLAW.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the University of Florida Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to: eight mice found dead in February 2020. The final report states eight mice were found dead and two had a very low body condition score and had to be euthanized following the initiation of a study which involved gavage. Necropsy results revealed the animals underwent trauma from oral gavage. As a corrective action the laboratory personnel involved in the incident was retrained on oral gavage with Animal Care Services before initiating a new cohort of animals. Since the incident, the individual involved has successfully performed gavage on a new cohort of animals. The IACUC full committee voted on March 3, 2020 that this incident was an adverse event and reportable through the IO to regulatory agencies.

It is noted that this project was not PHS supported. Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the University of Florida has implemented appropriate measures to correct and prevent recurrences of these problems and is now compliant with provisions of the PHS Policy. We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Jacquelyn T. Tubbs, DVM  
Veterinary Medical Officer  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Contact

A3377-70



Office of the Vice President for Research

223 Grinter Hall  
PO Box 115500  
Gainesville, FL 32611-5500  
352-392-1582

March 12, 2020

Axel Wolff, DVM  
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
Rockledge 1, Suite 360  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Wolff:

The University of Florida, in accordance with Assurance D16-00244 (A3377-01) and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this report of an adverse event regarding animal death due to gavage injury.

In February 2020, eight mice were found dead and two were in a very low body condition score and had to be euthanized following the initiation of a study which involved gavage. Necropsies were performed on the mice and it was determined that the animals underwent trauma from the oral gavage. The laboratory personnel performing the oral gavage had gone through hands on training with Animal Care Services (ACS) prior to initiating the study. As a corrective action the laboratory personnel involved re-trained on oral gavage with ACS before initiating a new cohort of animals. Since the incident, the individual involved has successfully performed gavage on a new cohort of animals.

The IACUC full committee voted on March 3, 2020 that this incident was an adverse event and was reportable through the IO to regulatory agencies. No further actions were required.

This study is not PHS funded.

The University of Florida is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Daniel R. Brown, Ph.D., IACUC Chair.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

David Norton, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Research  
Institutional Official

*The Foundation for The Gator Nation*  
An Equal Opportunity Institution

Obtained by Rise for Animals. Uploaded 08/24/2020

Retrieved from Animal Research Laboratory Overview (ARLO)

**Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 15, 2020 8:45 AM  
**To:** Mahoney,Michael P  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Report of Adverse Event (00749369)

Thank you. We will respond soon.  
Axel Wolff

**From:** Mahoney,Michael P <mmahoney@ufl.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 9:53 AM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Subject:** Report of Adverse Event (00749369)

Dr. Morse,

I am sending the attached report of an adverse event from the University of Florida. UF did not send a preliminary report for this event.

The protocol involved in this adverse event is not funded by PHS.

Please acknowledge receipt and let me know if you have any issues.

-Michael

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Michael Mahoney  
Director of Research Operations and Services  
University of Florida | UF Research | PO Box 115500  
Grinter (b) (4) PH: (b) (6) | <http://research.ufl.edu>