



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

January 6, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3158-01 [OLAW Case 1S]

S. David Kimball, Ph.D.  
Senior Vice President for Research &  
Economic Development  
RWJMS, Research Tower  
New Jersey Medical Schools  
675 Hoes Lane, West, (b) (4)  
Piscataway, New Jersey 08854

Dear Dr. Kimball,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your December 23, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Rutgers University. Your letter supplements the information in the initial phone report on June 20, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on June 17, 2019 it was reported that 23 mice died after the water manifold on the rack got jammed and didn't discharge sufficient water during the process of moving the rack location. The mice were a transgenic diabetes model highly sensitive to water deprivation. It was noted that the associated study was supported by PHS funds.

Corrective and preventive actions included replacing older cages that had older watering systems with new cages and racks and replacing defective hoses. Animal care staff were retrained on flushing lines/bleeding racks daily. Both animal care staff and PI's staff were trained on the importance of clear communication regarding fragile strains with increased and/or special care needs.

The prompt consideration of this matter by Rutgers University was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Similarly, the action taken to resolve the issues was appropriate. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Brent C. Morse, DVM  
Director  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Contact

December 23, 2019

Brent Morse, DVM  
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
Rockledge 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance Number D16-00098 (A3158-01)

Dear Dr. Morse,

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, hereby makes the final report for the following incident, initially reported to OLAW via telephone on June 20, 2019, follow up call on August 6, 2019, and additional follow up call on December 23, 2019. On June 17, 2019, 23 mice died after the water manifold to the rack got jammed and did not discharge sufficient water during the process of moving the rack location. These mice were a transgenic diabetic model which is highly sensitive to water deprivation, even lasting only a few hours. In addition to investigating this specific incident, a wider and in-depth examination of the cages, watering system, and staff training was conducted.

The following actions were taken in response to this incident:

- Older cages with older accompanying watering systems were replaced with new cages and racks. Defective hoses were replaced.
- Animal care staff were re-trained on flushing lines/bleeding racks daily as a mechanism to ensure water is flowing through the lines properly.
- Animal care staff and PI's staff were trained on the importance of clear communication regarding fragile strains with increased and/or special care needs, beyond that of typical mice.
- At a convened meeting on December 10, 2019, the IACUC reviewed and discussed this incident and unanimously voted to report this matter to OLAW. The IACUC also voted to accept the above noted corrective actions.

Please note that this study was supported by NIH funds.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

S. David Kimball, Ph.D.  
Institutional Official  
Senior Vice President, Research & Economic Development  
Vice President, Innovation & Research Commercialization

**Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 26, 2019 7:39 AM  
**To:** (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Cc:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: final report for Rutgers Assurance D16-00098 (A3158-01)

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:** Monday, December 23, 2019 4:18 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** final report for Rutgers Assurance D16-00098 (A3158-01)

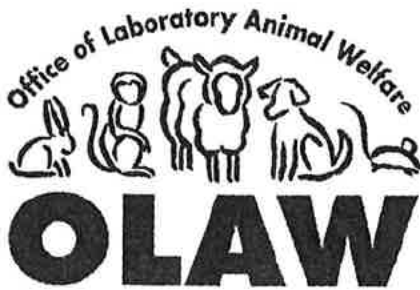
Division of Compliance Oversight,

Attached is a final report for a reportable event under Assurance # D16-00098 (A3158-01). Please note that the preliminary report update made today, December 23, 2019, referenced in the final report, was in a voice mail left for Dr. Morse.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
(b) (6)

(b) (6)



Division of Compliance Oversight

Record of Call for Case # A3158

Date & Time	Message	Initials
12/26/19 7:50 (Voicemail)	Voicemail from (b) (6) originally reported to OLAW on 6/20/19 but later retracted. After further review by IACUC, they decided to follow thru and send report to OLAW dated Dec. 23, 2019.	Incident / 25 AM