



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 3, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3229-01 [OLAW Case J]

Dr. Irem Turner  
Vice President for Research  
Oregon State University  
1500 SW Jefferson St.  
Corvallis, OR 97331

Dear Dr. Turner,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your December 21, 2018 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Oregon State University, following up on an initial February 6, 2018 telephone notification. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a Principal Investigator euthanized almost an entire colony of mice contaminated with *Pasteurella pneumotropica* despite the Attending Veterinarian's recommendations to treat with antibiotics. The PI expressed concerns regarding the deleterious effects of both the pathogen and antibiotics on the animal's biome but managed to salvage a small number of antibiotic-treated mice. The Attending Veterinarian failed to notify the IACUC of this PHS-funded noncompliance.

The corrective action consisted of the IACUC approving a revised biosecurity Standard Operating Procedure which included measures to enhance protection against *Pasteurella* infection in animals and humans for rodent housing areas.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate, correct and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT  
Animal Welfare Program Specialist  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair

December 21, 2018

Axel Wolff, DVM  
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
[olawdco@mail.nih.gov](mailto:olawdco@mail.nih.gov)

Dear Dr. Wolff:

In accordance with our Animal Welfare Assurance A3229-01, we provide this report of noncompliance regarding euthanasia of a colony of mice due to contamination with *Pasteurella pneumotropica* produced and used for activities described in the K99 award 117509-01. This incident was first reported to Dr. Axel Wolff, OLAW, on February 6, 2018 via a telephone call by the IACUC administrator.

On February 2, 2018, the IACUC received an incident report from the Principal Investigator (PI) regarding the positive test which had been identified during routine facility pathogen screening in September 2017. The incident report was reviewed and discussed at the February 14, 2018 IACUC convened meeting. The attending veterinarian (AV) suggested treating the colony with antibiotics. The presence of the organism in this colony was deleterious to the PI's research program, as was animal treatment with antibiotics, because of effects on the animal microbiome. The PI was able to treat and maintain a small fraction of the colony and determined they had to euthanize the remaining animals, adding significant costs and interruptions to the work. All breeders had been purchased from an approved vendor, except for a strain that was re-derived within the vivarium several years before by the laboratory animal resources staff.

The AV/Facilities Director (AV/FD) reported that they began testing for *P. pneumotropica* using fecal PCR in October 2016 before this room tested positive in September 2017. Confirmation testing suggested that 4 of 5 genetic lines from the PI's colony were considered positive. Prior to PI submission of this incident report, the IACUC was not aware of any pathogen or parasite issues in the facility, so the committee asked the AV/FD to work with the Biological Safety Officer to identify potential revisions to the current biosecurity SOP to enhance protection against *Pasteurella* infection for both animals and human workers. The IACUC then voted to close this incident report, with a request for follow-up on the biosecurity SOP revisions from the AV/FD.

Additional outbreaks of *Pasteurella* detected through testing were reported to the IACUC by the AV/FD in February and November 2018. These subsequent outbreaks did not affect the colony supported by K99 award 117509-01 and occurred in a separate room within the same facility. The colonies that were affected are supported in part by PHS funds, however, these animals were treated with antibiotics and did not require euthanasia, as development of clinical disease was not reported in these animals and the Principal Investigators using these colonies indicated the *Pasteurella* infections did not compromise their research aims.

During this time-period, the AV/FD and Biological Safety Officer worked on updating the biosecurity SOP for rodent housing areas. The AV/FD presented a finalized document containing the SOP to

the IACUC at the December 12, 2018 convened meeting and the SOP was subsequently approved by the IACUC. Due to the re-occurring nature of the *Pasteurella* outbreaks, the IACUC will continue to monitor this situation and take appropriate actions if future outbreaks threaten animal welfare.

Our institution is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in our Program and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Rob Gaebel, the interim IACUC Administrator.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
(b) (6) 12/21/2018 | 17:20:35 PST  
266BD680B5B84CA...

Irem Tumer, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Research and Institutional Official  
Oregon State University

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

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 26, 2018 6:46 AM  
**To:** Animal Program Office  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Noncompliance reports for A3229-J and A3229-L

Thank you for these reports, (b) (6) We will respond soon.

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.  
Deputy Director, OLAW

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**From:** Animal Program Office <APOffice@oregonstate.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 24, 2018 11:12 AM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** Gopee, Neera (NIH/OD) [E] <neera.gopee@nih.gov>  
**Subject:** Noncompliance reports for A3229-J and A3229-L

Hello,

Please find attached reports for incidents A3229-J and A3229-L. If there are any questions or if additional information is required, please contact [APOffice@oregonstate.edu](mailto:APOffice@oregonstate.edu) or call (b) (6)

Thank you for your time,

(b) (6)

**Gopee, Neera (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** Gopee, Neera (NIH/OD) [E]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 19, 2018 2:01 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** OLAW Request for update on preliminary noncompliance reports for A3229-J and A3229-L

**Importance:** High

Dear (b) (6)

I am writing with regards to two non-compliance incidents which were reported by you via telephone, on February 6<sup>th</sup> and July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Oregon State University. In the first incident, a mouse colony was euthanized due to *Pasteurella* infection and the second incident involved the unapproved transfer and housing of 2 zebrafish at an unauthorized location. To date we do not have a record of receiving additional information regarding these two preliminary reports. OLAW requests submission of final or interim reports to the OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) [olawdco@od.nih.gov](mailto:olawdco@od.nih.gov) at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,  
Neera

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT  
Animal Welfare Program Specialist  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health

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**Gopee, Neera (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** Gopee, Neera (NIH/OD) [E]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 10:20 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** OLAW Request for update on preliminary noncompliance report for A3229-J

Dear (b) (6)

I am writing with regards to an incident which was reported by via telephone on February 6, 2018 involving the euthanasia of a mouse colony due to *Pasteurella* infection at Oregon State University. To date we do not have a record of receiving further information regarding this preliminary report. OLAW requests that submission of a final or interim report to the OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) [olawdco@od.nih.gov](mailto:olawdco@od.nih.gov) at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,  
Neera

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT  
Animal Welfare Program Specialist  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health

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## Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: *aw*Date: *2/6/18*Time: *12:20*Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: *Oregon State U*Assurance number: *A3229*Did incident involve PHS funded activity? *Yes*

Funding component: \_\_\_\_\_

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

What happened?

*PI had to euthanize most of mouse colony due to Pasteurella infection. Vets didn't report problem to I saw.*

Species involved: *Mice*

Personnel involved:

Dates and times:

Animal deaths:

Projected plan and schedule for correction/prevention (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # \_\_\_\_\_



## Division of Compliance Oversight

Record of Call for Case # A3229-J

Date & Time	Message	Initials
12-28-18 12:28 pm	-AV recommended & with antibiotics but PI euthanized most of the mouse colony due to concerns of the deleterious effects on the animals.	(b) (6)
	- Failed to notify the IACUC	



## Division of Compliance Oversight

Record of Call for Case # A 3229-J

Date & Time	Message	Initials
8-10-18 2:50pm	Left voice message for (b)(6) JANE Administrator (b)(6) to please call regarding status of final or interim report.	(b)(6)
8-10-18 4:12pm	(b)(6) called & will send an interim report via email	(b)(6)