



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

September 9, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3189-01 [OLAW Case 1Q]

James B. Hendricks, Ph.D.
President
Seattle Children's Hospital Research Institute
4800 Sand Point Way, N.E.
Seattle, Washington 98105

Dear Dr. Hendricks,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your September 5, 2019 letter reporting an adverse event involving mice at Seattle Children's Hospital Research Institute, following up on an initial report on June 13, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that nine mice died in a hypoxia chamber due to low airflow. The cause could not be definitively identified but may have been due to central air compressor failure or tampering with the air line by someone not associated with the laboratory.

The corrective actions consisted of installing a backup air supply using oxygen and nitrogen tanks and installing locks to prevent tampering. Backup air systems will also be set up for other laboratories using central compressed air.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to correct and prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the institution to comply with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair



September 5, 2019

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

Subject: **Notification of Programmatic Issue**
Institution: Seattle Children's Research Institute (SCRI)
Animal Welfare Assurance #: D16-00119 (A3189-01)

Dear OLAW,

This letter is to provide you with a full explanation of the circumstances and actions taken following an incident at our institution as required by PHS Policy IV.F.3.a.

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) office received information that three cages of mice (nine animals total) were found dead in their hypoxia chamber due to insufficient airflow. Two possible causes have been identified:

1. Failure of the building's air compressor resulted in insufficient flow; or
2. An individual not involved with the experiments tampered with the air line, as the hypoxia chamber is in a shared room.

After the incident, the involved lab implemented the following corrective actions:

1. The lab met with SCRI's facility manager and discussed options for installing a backup/failsafe air supply to prevent a building failure from impacting the animals. This involves placement of switchover manifolds with standing gas canisters for both the air line (to prevent low-oxygen conditions) and the nitrogen line (to prevent disruption of the intended low-oxygen conditions).
2. The lab plans to install locks to prevent tampering. These modifications will be installed by SCRI's Building and Engineering team.

In addition, the IACUC office has contacted other labs who have experiments that may involve central compressed air sources to confirm backup air is currently set up and if not, help identify appropriate backup mechanisms and how to arrange for installation. The IACUC office will report back to IACUC with a timeline for resolution and ensure designated personnel implement the plan.

USPS Mail
PO Box 5371, M/S _____
Seattle, WA 98145-5005

Jack R. MacDonald Building
1900 Ninth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

West 8th
2001 Eighth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121

Olive Lab Building
1100 Olive Way, Suite 100
Seattle, WA 98101

818 Stewart
818 Stewart Street, Suite 603
Seattle, WA 98101



Seattle Children's
HOSPITAL • RESEARCH • FOUNDATION

Research Institute

The IACUC discussed the incident and accepted these corrective actions as being sufficient to prevent recurrence.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
SEATTLE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH INSTITUTE

(b) (6)

James B. Hendricks, PhD
President

Copy: Kari Koszdin, DVM, DACLAM, CPIA, Attending Veterinarian
Tara Polek, PhD, IACUC Chair
IACUC Mailbox

USPS Mail
PO Box 5371, M/S _____
Seattle, WA 98145-5005

Jack R. MacDonald Building
1900 Ninth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

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2001 Eighth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121

Olive Lab Building
1100 Olive Way, Suite 100
Seattle, WA 98101

818 Stewart
818 Stewart Street, Suite 603
Seattle, WA 98101

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, September 9, 2019 6:53 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Preliminary Notification of Programmatic Issue – Animal Welfare Assurance #D16-00119 (A3189-01)

Thank you for this report. We will send a response soon.

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Friday, September 6, 2019 3:59 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Hendricks, James <james.hendricks@seattlechildrens.org>; Koszdin, Kari <Kari.Koszdin@seattlechildrens.org>; Polek, Tara <tara.polek@seattlechildrens.org>; IACUC Mailbox <IACUC@seattlechildrens.org>
Subject: RE: Preliminary Notification of Programmatic Issue – Animal Welfare Assurance #D16-00119 (A3189-01)

Dear OLAW,

Please find attached a final report from Dr. Jim Hendricks pertaining to a programmatic issue at Seattle Children's Research Institute, Animal Welfare Assurance #D16-00119 (A3189-01).

Please contact the IACUC office at IACUC@seattlechildrens.org with any questions.

Best Regards,

(b) (6)



From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2019 3:32 PM
To: 'olawdco@mail.nih.gov' <olawdco@mail.nih.gov>
Cc: Hendricks, James <james.hendricks@seattlechildrens.org>; Koszdin, Kari <Kari.Koszdin@seattlechildrens.org>; Polek, Tara <tara.polek@seattlechildrens.org>; IACUC Mailbox <IACUC@seattlechildrens.org>
Subject: Preliminary Notification of Programmatic Issue – Animal Welfare Assurance #D16-00119 (A3189-01)

Dear OLAW,

This email serves as a preliminary report of a programmatic issue at Seattle Children's Research Institute. Three cages of mice (9 animals total) were found dead in their hypoxia chamber due to insufficient airflow. The cause of the air issue is yet to be determined.

An IACUC Subcommittee convened to discuss the incident on 6/5/19. A final, detailed report will follow once the incident has been reviewed by the full IACUC.

Please contact the IACUC office at IACUC@seattlechildrens.org with any questions.

Thank you,



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Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2019 9:28 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Preliminary Notification of Programmatic Issue – Animal Welfare Assurance #D16-00119 (A3189-01)

Thank you for this preliminary report. We will start a new case file and look forward to receiving the final report from the IO after the IACUC has completed its investigation.

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2019 6:32 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Hendricks, James <james.hendricks@seattlechildrens.org>; Koszdin, Kari <Kari.Koszdin@seattlechildrens.org>; Polek, Tara <tara.polek@seattlechildrens.org>; IACUC Mailbox <IACUC@seattlechildrens.org>
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Thank you,

(b) (6)



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