

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2019 2:37 PM
To: Mathias Leblanc; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Report to OLAW

Thank you for the update Dr. Leblanc. I will post your email to the closed case file to complete the record.

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: Mathias Leblanc [mailto:mleblanc@salk.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2019 12:30 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Report to OLAW

Dear Dr. Morse,

Thank you for your prompt response. I just wanted to follow up regarding this report and confirm to you that, as promised, all members of the laboratory including research staff were retrained at a convened meeting to prevent recurrence (see letter stating that members would be retrained shortly).

Let me know if you have any additional question.

Best regards,

Mat

Mathias Leblanc, DVM, Ph.D., DES, DACLAM
Senior Director/Staff Scientist
Animal Resources Department
The Salk Institute for Biological Studies
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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

April 25, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3539-01 [OLAW Case W]

Dr. Martin Hetzer
Vice President, Chief Scientific Officer
The Salk Institute for Biological Studies
10010 North Torrey Pines Road
LaJolla, CA 92037-1099

Dear Dr. Hetzer,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your March 28, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at The Salk Institute. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on February 6, 2019 five mice were reported by Veterinary Services to a research staff for severe fight wounds beyond approved humane endpoints with a request to promptly euthanize all animals. The research staff acknowledged the request, assured the veterinary crew that the animals would be attended immediately but euthanized only two of the five animals. Of the remaining three animals, one was found dead, another was found unresponsive and the last one was found in critical condition the following day. The two alive animals were immediately euthanized. It was stated that the activity received funds from the PHS (NIA-AG062232, AG047669; NIMH-MH114831).

The corrective and preventive actions consisted of a meeting between the research staff, the Attending Veterinarian and the IACUC staff to discuss the incident. All members of the laboratory including the research staff will be retrained at a convened meeting to prevent recurrence.

OLAW believes that the corrective measures put in place by The Salk Institute are appropriate for this incident. Due to the animal welfare implications of research staff not following veterinary directions, the funding institutes are copied on this letter. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office at this time.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair
Rebecca Claycamp, Chief Grants Management Officer, NIMH
Linda C. Whipp, Chief Grants Management Officer, NIA



March 28, 2019

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

Dear Dr. Wolff:

The Salk Institute, in accordance with the reporting requirements as defined by PHS Policy IV.F.3 and Assurance A3539-01, hereby communicates the following recent incident pertaining to NIH grants AG062232, AG047669, MH114831.

On 2/6/19, 5 mice were reported by the Institute's Veterinary Services to a research staff for severe fighting wounds beyond approved humane endpoints with a request to promptly euthanize all animals. The research staff acknowledged the request, assured the veterinary crew that the animals would be attended immediately but euthanized only 2 of the 5 sick mice, deciding that the 3 remaining animals were not critically ill and did not need treatment or euthanasia. The research staff failed to discuss this decision or follow veterinary recommendations as approved in their IACUC protocol. Of those 3 animals that had not been euthanized, 1 was found dead, another was found unresponsive and the last one was found in critical condition the following day by the Institute's Veterinary Services. Both animals still alive were immediately euthanized.

After further investigation, the IACUC concluded that the research staff should have followed the veterinary recommendations as approved in the investigator's IACUC protocol to avoid unnecessary pain, distress and death.

The research staff was immediately met by the Attending Veterinarian and IACUC staff to discuss the incident. All members of the laboratory including the research staff will be retrained shortly at a convened meeting to prevent recurrence.

The Salk Institute is committed to protecting the welfare of the animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Edward Callaway, PhD, IACUC Chair at (b) (6)

Thank you for your consideration in these matters.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Martin Hetzer, PhD

Vice-President, Chief Scientific Officer, Institutional Official
10010 North Torrey Pines Rd. La Jolla, CA 92037-1099

(b) (6)

www.salk.edu

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2019 11:55 AM
To: Mathias Leblanc; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Report to OLAW

Thank you for providing this report. 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: Mathias Leblanc [mailto:mleblanc@salk.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 3:16 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Report to OLAW

Dear Dr. Wolff:

The Salk Institute, in accordance with the reporting requirements as defined by PHS Policy IV.F.3 and Assurance A3539-01, hereby communicates to OLAW a recent incident pertaining to NIH grants AG062232, AG047669 and MH11831 (please refer to pdf attachment).

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Mat

Mathias Leblanc, DVM, Ph.D., DES, DACLAM
Senior Director/Staff Scientist
Animal Resources Department
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From: (b) (6)

Date: Monday, April 1, 2019 at 10:52 AM

To: Mathias Leblanc <mleblanc@salk.edu>, (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Report to OLAW

Hi Mat and (b) (6)

Attached please find the signed report.

Thank you,

(b) (6)