



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) 480-3387

February 13, 2020

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

Dr. Martin Hetzer
Vice President and 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 February 11, 2020 letter reporting a serious deviation from the provisions of the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Salk Institute. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that eight mice died and one was moribund due to lack of access to water. The laboratory staff had weaned the mice and failed to attach water valves.

The corrective actions consisted of euthanizing the surviving mouse and retraining the technician responsible.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to correct and reduce the likelihood of a 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 and recommends that all investigators and husbandry staff using this type of watering system be reminded to ensure that valves are present and working. Thank you for informing OLAW about this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair

February 11th, 2020

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 incident pertaining to NIH grant DK113065, HL088093, DK120808, and DK120480.

In January 2020, ARD Veterinary Services (VS) reported that 3 mouse cages were found with missing water valves. Consequently, 8 mice were found deceased and 1 was found moribund. The investigator failed to respond to VS notifications in a timely manner therefore, VS humanely euthanized the moribund mouse. After further investigation, it was determined that the lab forgot to include water valves when weaning the mice.

The incident was discussed at a convened IACUC meeting wherein committee voted unanimously to:

1. Report the incident to OLAW
2. Retrain the investigator's technician

The technician completed retraining on January 31st, 2020.

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

Thank you for your consideration in these matters.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Martin Hetzer
Senior Vice President/CFO
Institutional Official, The Salk Institute for Biological Studies

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Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 6:35 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Incident Reports of Non-compliance

Thank you for this report, (b) (6) We will send a response soon.

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 5:53 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) Martin Hetzer <hetzer@salk.edu>
Subject: Incident Reports of Non-compliance

Good afternoon,

Attached please find the letter describing an incident of non-compliance that occurred at our institution. Our (b) (6) (b) (6) and Institutional Official, Martin Hetzer, are cc'd on this email.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Best regards,
(b) (6) for Martin Hetzer

(b) (6)