



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

October 15, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#A3082-01 (OLAW Case 1A)

Dr. Joanna Turner  
Vice President for Research  
Texas Biomedical Research Institute  
8715 West Military Drive  
San Antonio, Texas 78227-5302

Dear Dr. Turner,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your September 12, 2019 letter reporting a noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals within the animal care and use program at the Texas Biomedical Research Institute. Your letter supplements the initial information contained in the telephone report received on August 1, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on July 23, 2019 a female macaque was found with her finger caught in the squeeze-back mechanism of a cage. This required amputation of her finger. The animal was successfully treated and monitored. This was the second such incident with this animal. After the first incident, two of sixteen cages were modified to prevent the occurrence. Unfortunately, she was subsequently placed in an unmodified cage. It was stated that the animal was supported by funds from the PHS.

Corrective and preventive actions consisted of modifying all 16 cages in the room and identifying this animal with cage labels, room signage, and in the animal record, for special caging requirements. Processes and procedures for cage and facility maintenance and modifications are being assessed and refined. Training of husbandry and technical staff on the refinements will follow.

The prompt consideration of this matter by the Texas Biomedical Research Institute was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Similarly, the actions taken to resolve the issue and prevent recurrence were appropriate. We appreciate being informed of this incident 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  
Dr. Robert M. Gibbens, USDA, APHIS, AC



September 12, 2019

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

Dear Dr. Morse,

The Texas Biomedical Research Institute (TBRI), in accordance with Assurance D16-00048 and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this report of noncompliance regarding treatment of a wound on a rhesus macaque on a P51 Base Grant (OD011133) holding protocol. This event was first reported to Dr. Brent Morse, OLAW, on August 1, 2019 via a telephone call by Kathleen Brasky, V.M.D., interim Associate Director, Southwest National Primate Research Center, Luis Giavedoni Ph.D., IACUC Chair, and IACUC Office Staff. No animal welfare concerns were identified and the animal received immediate care and remains in good condition.

An IACUC subcommittee was appointed by the IACUC Chair to review this noncompliance event. The subcommittee has reviewed animal records, processes, responsibilities, and events leading up to the wound and has provided an update with recommendations to the IACUC. The animal has since finished treatment and was returned to pair housing with an established cage mate and has undergone behavioral monitoring with no concerns or further interventions. All 16 cages in the room have been modified to prevent this reoccurrence and the animal has been identified through cage labels, animal record, and room signage for specific caging requirements.

The subcommittee found the need to better identify modified caging requirements to be a contributing cause to this event.

Corrective actions and recommendations were provided by the subcommittee to the IACUC for review at the August 27, 2019 IACUC meeting to include:

- An assessment and refinement of current processes and procedures for cage and facility maintenance and modifications.
- Retraining of husbandry and technical staff once refinements have been put into place.

The Texas Biomedical Research Institute is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Luis Giavedoni, PhD, IACUC Chair.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Joanne Turner, Ph.D.

Institutional Official

Vice President, Research, Texas Biomedical Research Institute

**Ward, Joan (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 16, 2019 12:54 PM  
**To:** IACUC  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: D16-00048 Animal Event follow-up

Thank you for this report (b) (6) Dr. Morse will respond when he returns next week.

Regards,  
Joan

**From:** IACUC <iacuc@TxBiomed.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 16, 2019 12:20 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** IACUC <iacuc@TxBiomed.org>; Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E] <morseb@mail.nih.gov>; Joanne Turner <joanneturner@txbiomed.org>; Kathy Brasky <kbrasky@TxBiomed.org>; Luis Giavedoni <lgiavedoni@TxBiomed.org>  
**Subject:** FW: D16-00048 Animal Event follow-up

Good Afternoon,

We received an out of office notification for Dr. Morse. Please see the attached on behalf of our Institutional Official.

Thank you,  
(b) (6)

**From:** IACUC <iacuc@TxBiomed.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 16, 2019 9:30 AM  
**To:** morseb@mail.nih.gov  
**Cc:** IACUC <iacuc@TxBiomed.org>; Joanne Turner <joanneturner@txbiomed.org>; Kathy Brasky <kbrasky@TxBiomed.org>; Luis Giavedoni <lgiavedoni@TxBiomed.org>  
**Subject:** D16-00048 Animal Event follow-up

Good Morning Dr. Morse,

Please see the attached animal event letter.

Respectfully,  
(b) (6)

(b) (6)



## Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: *BM*Date: *8/1/19*Time: *3:30*Name of Person reporting: *Kathy Brasley, Acting A/V*

Telephone #:

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: *Texas Biomed. Res. Inst.*Assurance number: *A3082*Did incident involve PHS funded activity? *Yes*

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

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

What happened? *♀ macaque w/ history of fingers caught in squeeze-back cage. Second incident, Had to amputate finger. First time only 2 of 16 quads modified. Mistakenly placed this ♀ in unmodified quad. Now all 16 quads modified.*

Species involved: *Macaque*

Personnel involved: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and times: *7/23/19*

Animal deaths: *None*

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

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

*IACUC meets end of August*

OFFICE USE ONLY

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