



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

December 17, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3597-01 (OLAW Case 2R)

Dr. Fred King
Vice President for Research
West Virginia University
886 Chestnut Ridge Road, (b) (4)
P O Box 6216
Morgantown, WV 26506-6103

Dear Dr. King,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your December 10, 2018 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at West Virginia University. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a mouse died after being trapped in the upper portion of the cage lid. A laboratory member had inadvertently left the mouse on top of the lid and put the cage back on the rack.

The corrective action consisted of counseling the laboratory staff on reporting animal welfare concerns. The laboratory staff agreed to carefully check animals and cages before leaving the animal room and to slow down when conducting the checks.

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.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair
Animal Welfare Program Director

December 10, 2018

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACLAM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)
National Institutes of Health
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, MD 20892

West Virginia University
D16-00362 (A3597-01)
P30 GM103503

Dr. Morse,

I am writing to inform your office of a West Virginia University adverse event that occurred within one of our research labs. On November 28, 2018, the IACUC chair received a report of a mouse that was found dead by the animal facility staff. The report indicated that the mouse was found dead, perhaps mistakenly trapped within the upper compartment of the cage lid and cover. On November 29th, a committee member investigated the report and inquired with the investigator's staff member how the incident occurred. The individual explained that when checking to verify the correct animal ID, found that they had the wrong animal and in hurrying to find the correct cage, inadvertently left the animal on top of the wire lid prior to replacing it back on the rack.

The investigator's staff was informed of the preferred method of self-reporting to the IACUC on any situation that may involve an animal welfare issue. They were also informed that the situation would be discussed at the next IACUC meeting.

During its December 5th meeting, the IACUC discussed the self-report and determined that it was an unfortunate accident due to rushing of the personnel in their routine tasks and that there was nothing to indicate a larger or systemic issue.

RESEARCH OFFICE

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Upon review of this adverse event and the steps taken by the investigators staff for future animals, i.e. being more careful about the animals, and slowing down their animal checks and checking each cage before leaving the room, the committee determined that the planned actions of the investigator are sufficient to deter any more accidents when checking animals in their cages.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

(b) (6)

Fred King
Institutional Official
Vice President for Research

Cc: Dr. Matthew Wilson, IACUC Chair
Dr. Ida Washington, Attending Veterinarian
Ms. Deyanira Santiago, Director of Animal Welfare

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2018 6:30 AM
To: 'Deyanira Santiago'
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Report of Adverse Event - WVU A3597-01

Thank you for this report, Ms. Santiago. We will send a reply soon.

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

From: Deyanira Santiago <disantiago@mail.wvu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2018 4:23 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Fred King <Fred.King@mail.wvu.edu>; Matthew Wilson <Matt.Wilson@mail.wvu.edu>; Ida Washington Durkin <ida.washingtondurkin@hsc.wvu.edu>
Subject: Report of Adverse Event - WVU A3597-01

Dr. Morse,

Attached please find a letter from our IO, Dr. Fred King, regarding an adverse event that occurred here at WVU. Please feel free to contact me or Dr. King if you have any questions regarding the letter.

Thank you,

Ms. Deyanira Santiago
Director of Animal Welfare Program
West Virginia University
886 Chestnut Ridge Rd. (b) (4)
Morgantown, WV 26506-6845

Phone: (b) (6)