



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

February 4, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3612-01 [OLAW Case 1D]

Dr. Joel D. Baines  
Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine  
Louisiana State University  
Skip Bertman Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-3103

Dear Dr. Baines,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 17, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that five more mice than originally approved were used on a study.

The corrective actions consisted of the Principal Investigator stopping use of additional mice, revising the laboratory's method of tracking animal numbers, counseling the laboratory staff, having laboratory staff review the content of the approved protocols, amending the protocol to increase mouse numbers, reviewing ongoing studies during laboratory meetings, and having staff review the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* on an annual basis.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate, correct, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. We appreciate having been informed about this matter and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair



A3612-10

**School of Veterinary Medicine**  
*Office of the Dean*

January 17, 2019

To: Axel V. Wolf, DVM, MS  
Director: Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
RKL1, Suite 360, MSC 7982  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

From: Joel D. Baines VMD, PhD  
Institutional Official for Animal Care and Use, and  
Dean, School of Veterinary Medicine  
Through the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Re: Non-compliance- Assurance number D16-00372 (A3612-01)

The Louisiana State University (LSU) IACUC, through the Institutional Official, herein report a deviation from the provisions of the *Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* and the *Animal Welfare Act* (AWA). Specifically, personnel performing research under the auspices of an approved animal care and use protocol utilized five (5) more mice than were approved on their protocol. While the number of overuse was small, the LSU community takes seriously our commitment to comply with all laws, regulations and guidelines pertaining to animal care and use. In the opinion of the IACUC, U.S. Government Principles I and VIII were violated. Further, our PHS Assurance Statement indicates that we will equally apply all federal laws governing the use of animals in research, teaching, and testing, regardless of PI, vertebrate animal species, experimental use, funding source or animal housing location. Hence, we make the following report.

In early December, 2018, a vivarium supervisor reported to the IACUC that the number of mice used on an approved protocol had been exceeded by five. The issue was investigated by the Attending Veterinarian. It was determined that only the number of mice used was non-compliant; the specific use of the mice had been as described in the protocol. The principal investigator (PI) was instructed to immediately discontinue using mice until the issue could be discussed by the IACUC and corrective actions taken. The PI acknowledged the mistake, apologized for the error, and instructed his staff to immediately cease use of mice on the applicable protocol.

The issue was discussed at the next regularly scheduled meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The IACUC voted to require the PI to revise his laboratory's method of tracking animal numbers, and

to discuss the matter with his scientific staff. The PI took the following steps to address the non-compliance. 1) All personnel were required to review the laboratory's animal care and use protocols and to ensure accurate tracking of animal use; and, 2) the PI submitted an amendment to increase the number of mice approved, to allow for completion of the approved experiments. Further, the PI took the following steps to prevent a reoccurrence of the overuse. 1) All laboratory personnel are now required to read or re-read animal use protocols prior to starting any experiment and to accurately record animal use; 2) weekly laboratory meetings include review of ongoing experiments so as to prevent noncompliance of any kind; and, 3) all laboratory personnel are required to review the "*Guide*" annually.

The IACUC was satisfied with the corrective measures taken by the PI, and consider the matter closed. The LSU-IACUC and the University regret the occurrence of this incident and will make every effort to ensure it does not occur again in the future.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Joel D. Baines, VMD, PhD  
Dean, LSU School of Veterinary Medicine  
Institutional Official for Animal Care  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, LA