



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 15, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3049-01 [OLAW Case 1Q]

Mr. Thomas Coggins
Director, Office of Research Compliance
University of South Carolina
(b) (4) Byrnes Building
Columbia, SC 29208

Dear Mr. Coggins,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your March 22, 2019 email reporting two instances of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of South Carolina. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that the first incident involved an individual performing training procedures on live animals before being added to the protocol. The lab manager overseeing the protocol counseled all lab personnel that no procedures can be performed unless the involved individual appears on the approved protocol. It was stated that the animals were supported by PHS funding.

The second incident involved mice that were present in an unsecured laboratory. One mouse was anesthetized and restrained in the surgical area and two cages of mice were without food or water while awaiting surgery. There were also issues with controlled drugs in the unsecured area and the presence of an isoflurane vaporizer that was overdue for certification. It was stated that the animals were supported by PHS funding.

Corrective actions included the PI's lab manager taking immediate action to rectify issues in the lab, including collecting all keys to drug storage, equipment, and supplies. Lab personnel must go through the lab manager to schedule and perform surgeries. The PI and lab manager are required to complete additional training. DLAR veterinary staff must be notified prior to anyone in the lab conducting surgeries. Surgeries must be conducted only during DLAR working hours on weekdays. Unannounced inspections will take place via IACUC and/or DLAR staff.

The consideration of this matter by the University of South Carolina was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Similarly, the additional actions taken to resolve the issue and prevent recurrence were appropriate. We appreciate being informed of this matter 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

From: COGGINS, TOMMY <TCOGGINS@mailbox.sc.edu>
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2019 10:45 AM
To: Ward, Joan (NIH/OD) [E]
Subject: Report of Non-Compliance - A3049 (D16-00028)

VIA EMAIL

March 22, 2019

Brent Morse, DVM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
RKL 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Dear Dr. Morse:

The University of South Carolina, in accordance with Assurance D16-00028 and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this report regarding recent incidents of non-compliance, which were reviewed at the March 7, 2019, meeting of the IACUC.

The first incident involved an individual performing training procedures on live animals prior to being added to the approved Animal Use Protocol (AUP). The incident was discovered by the IACUC staff and conveyed to the laboratory manager overseeing the AUP. In response, the lab manager counseled all lab personnel that no procedures can be performed unless the involved individual appears on the approved AUP. He provided assurance that the lab would be vigilant to ensure that this would not recur. The federal grant numbers for the involved protocols are 2P01-AT003961, 1R01-AI123947, and 1P20-GM103641.

The second incident was discovered during a semi-annual inspection, when the IACUC team discovered the following violations:

1. Mice were present in an unsecured laboratory. One mouse was anesthetized and restrained in the surgical area and two cages of mice were without food or water while awaiting surgery.
2. A controlled drug solution left unsecured. Another controlled drug was missing its expiration date and left unsecured on a countertop. The drug log was out of date.
3. The isoflurane vaporizer certification for the anesthesia unit was overdue. This machine was not in use at the time of the inspection.

The federal grant funding work on this protocol is 2P01-AT003961.

The IACUC determined that the lab staff is not adequately supervised, and may perform animal work only under the following conditions:

1. DLAR veterinary staff must be notified prior to anyone in the lab conducting surgery. Surgeries must be performed only on weekdays during DLAR working hours. When current construction of a common surgical suite is complete, surgeries must be performed exclusively in that space.
2. Unannounced inspections will take place via IACUC and/or DLAR staff.

3. The PI and laboratory manager are required to complete additional training at the PI's expense. The IACUC office will investigate outside training opportunities and notify the PI when an appropriate training opportunity is identified. The laboratory manager should be encouraged to take advantage of informal opportunities for training from other managers and colleagues.
4. The PI's lab manager has taken immediate steps to rectify issues in the lab, including collecting all keys to drug storage, surgical areas, equipment, and supplies. Lab personnel must go through the lab manager to schedule and perform surgeries.

The University of South Carolina 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 concerning this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Thomas Coggins
Institutional Official
Director, Office Research Compliance
University of South Carolina

(b) (6)

tcoggins@mailbox.sc.edu