



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 2, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3464-01 [OLAW Case 9X]

Dr. David M. Anderson
Executive Director, Health Sciences Administration
University of Washington
(b) (4) Health Sciences Center, Box 356355
Seattle, WA 98195-6355

Dear Dr. Anderson,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your September 23, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Washington, following up on an initial telephone report on July 29, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that there were two female mice with litters in one cage and one female was removed and one died, leaving both litters of pups without dams. The laboratory staff could not find a foster mother and failed to notify Veterinary Services about the death. The next day 12 pups were dead and 4 were alive and hunched.

The immediate action taken upon discovery consisted of providing dietary gel and soft food to the survivors. The pups were subsequently euthanized. The laboratory staff was counseled on promptly reporting sick or dead animals, on contacting the veterinarian regarding orphaned pups, on the weaning policy, and on the number of animals to be maintained in a breeding cage. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) issued a letter of reprimand to the Principal Investigator (PI) stressing the importance of animal welfare and compliance and directing the PI to ensure that laboratory staff understand the protocol, animal care and welfare requirements, and reporting to the veterinary staff.

OLAW understands that the protocol involved was not PHS-supported but concurs that the incidents were serious and supports the actions taken by the IACUC. The establishment and application of policies and practices that are consistent with the provisions of the PHS Policy at the University of Washington are commendable and avoid the perception of a double standard. Thank you for keeping OLAW apprised on this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair

HEALTH SCIENCES ADMINISTRATION
Office of the Executive Director

23 September 2019

Dr. Brent Morse olawdco@od.nih.gov
Office of Animal Welfare, NIH
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
Bethesda, MD 20892

Re: D16-00292 (A3464-01), Mortality involving early weaning of mice

Dear Dr. Morse:

This is a final report on a situation reported to OLAW by Dr. Stocking in a telephone call on 7/26/2019.

Two pregnant female breeders were co-housed in a cage. One gave birth to a litter on 6/30/19, and the other female gave birth 7/6/19. On 7/15/19, the mother of the older litter was removed by the research group when her pups were 15 days old. On 7/17/19, around 7:00 pm, the remaining female breeder was found dead in cage by the research group, with all pups reportedly alive. The female's carcass was removed, a foster was not able to be found for the pups, but Veterinary Services was not notified of the dead animal. The following morning, a husbandry staff member found the cage and reported it to Veterinary Services. At that time, all 12/12 of the younger (DOB 7/6) pups were found dead. 4/4 of the older (DOB 6/30) were alive, hunched, and immediately given dietary gel and soft food. A member of the research group elected to euthanize them later that morning.

An in-person meeting was held with the two research scientists most immediately involved with the animals. At the meeting, the AV re-iterated that sick and dead animal reports must be submitted immediately, and the on-call veterinarian paged after hours, especially in cases of orphaned pups with no mother. It was also emphasized mice pups should be weaned around 21 days of age and that if early weaning is necessary, an IACUC amendment should be submitted in consultation with Veterinary Services. Additionally, the IACUC policy on the number of animals maintained in a breeding cage was reviewed, and sent electronically to the group members. The group members present at the meeting agreed to share these recommendations with the rest of their team members.

The IACUC reviewed the incident at its August meeting and voted to send a letter of reprimand to the Principle Investigator, reminding him of his responsibility to establish and maintain within his laboratory close, thoughtful attention to animal welfare and a culture of compliance with University policy and regulations. The Committee requested a reply indicating the steps taken to ensure all members of the research group understand the protocol, know the requirements for animal care and reporting to veterinary services, and recognize their obligation to the welfare of every animal.

The IACUC reviewed the PI's reply at its September meeting and determined no further action was required. The animals involved were not used for work funded by PHS or NSF.

If you have questions regarding this situation or require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

HEALTH SCIENCES ADMINISTRATION
Office of the Executive Director

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

David M. Anderson, D.V.M.
Executive Director, Health Sciences Administration
Institutional Official

cc:

(b) (6)

Dr. Kim Stocking

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Tuesday, October 01, 2019 1:02 PM
To: (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: David M. Anderson; (b) (6) Kim Stocking
Subject: RE: Final reports of non-compliances

Thank you for these final reports (b) (6) We will send official responses soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACLAM
Director
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health

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From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, September 30, 2019 8:46 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: David M. Anderson <danderso@uw.edu>; (b) (6) Kim Stocking <kstock@uw.edu>
Subject: Final reports of non-compliances

Please see the attached three final reports of noncompliance at the University of Washington. Let me know if you have any questions.

(b) (6)



W UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: [Signature]Date: 7/29/19Time: VoicemailName of Person reporting: Kim Stodding AVTelephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: U. of WashingtonAssurance number: A3464Did incident involve PHS funded activity? _____Funding component: _____Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____What happened? Cage w/ 2 ♀s w/ litters. One ♀ died
and 12 + 4 pups dead or euthanized evenSpecies involved: MicePersonnel involved: Research problem but did notDates and times: intervene or cross-foster.Animal deaths: YesProjected plan and schedule for correction/prevention (if known): _____Re-train & counsel

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____