



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7982
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 402-7065

July 11, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3272-01 (OLAW Case 2G]

Dr. Denis Wirtz
Vice Provost for Research
Johns Hopkins University
3400 N. Charles Street, (b) (4)
Baltimore, MD 21218

Dear Dr. Wirtz,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your June 25, 2018 letter reporting an adverse event at Johns Hopkins University, following up on an initial December 14, 2017 telephone notification. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a marmoset accidentally died from blunt force trauma to the neck and aspiration of blood. Apparently, a relatively new caretaker panicked when he observed the animal trying to leave the cage and he inadvertently closed the door while the animal was in the doorway thereby injuring the animal. The incident was immediately reported to the Supervisor and the veterinarian promptly examined the animal but was unable to resuscitate the marmoset.

The corrective actions consisted of revising the Standard Operating Procedure for “Marmoset Husbandry and Maintenance” and employing new training for all personnel involved in marmoset care, with an emphasis on keeping calm and contacting the Supervisor for assistance in the safe return of an escaped marmoset.

The establishment and application of policies and practices that are consistent with the provisions of the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Johns Hopkins University are commendable and avoid the perception of a double standard. We appreciate having been informed about this matter and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT
Animal Welfare Program Specialist
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair
Dr. Robert M. Gibbens, Director Western Sector, USDA, APHIS, AC



13272-26
June 25, 2018

Brent C. Morse, M.S., D.V.M., DACLAM
Acting Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance A3272

Dear Dr. Morse:

I am writing to follow up on the telephone report made by Dr. Nancy Ator, Chair of the Johns Hopkins University Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC), to you on December 13, 2017. A young marmoset was killed when the cage door was closed on his neck.

Review of the situation suggested that the caretaker, who was a newer member of the staff, may have panicked when the animal, which was housed in a stable family group, came to the door and started to leave the cage. In response, the caretaker closed the door quickly, while the monkey was in the doorway, causing trauma to the neck. The caretaker reported the accident to his supervisor immediately, and a veterinarian examined the animal promptly but the marmoset could not be revived. Necropsy revealed hemorrhage in the muscles of the neck but no fracture. The cause of death was concluded to be accidental trauma to the neck and aspiration of blood.

In response to this disturbing event, a senior clinical veterinarian, who had been actively involved in the management of the marmoset colony, revised the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for "Marmoset Husbandry and Maintenance," and implemented new training sessions with all staff who would care for these animals. In particular, she stressed in the SOP and in training sessions that staff should not be alarmed if a marmoset was leaving the cage, nor try to catch the animal alone, but rather should contact the Supervisor by phone for assistance in safely returning a marmoset to the home cage to avoid injury to the marmoset. Follow up by the ACUC Senior Training and Compliance Specialist over the months since this incident has not revealed further problems with handling of the marmosets.

Please let me know if you would like further information on this unfortunate incident.

Office of the Provost
265 Garland Hall 3400 N. Charles Street Baltimore, MD 21218 410-516-8070 <http://web.jhu.edu/administration/provost>



Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Denis Wirtz, Ph.D.

Vice Provost for Research

TH Smoot Professor, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Pathology, Oncology Director
Johns Hopkins Physical Sciences-Oncology Center Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins
School of Medicine

cc: Kathryn K. Bayne, D.V M., Chief Executive Officer, AAALAC International

(b) (6)

Nancy A. Ator, Ph.D., Chair, Johns Hopkins University ACUC

Office of the Provost

265 Garland Hall 3400 N. Charles Street Baltimore, MD 21218 410-516-8070 <http://web.jhu.edu/administration/provost>

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Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: Nancy Ator <ator@jhmi.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2018 1:01 PM
To: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]
Subject: Re: December 14 marmoset report

Hi Brent--Thank you for the follow up. I do have sending that in on my list; and am chagrined that it is already May! It did take awhile to get the necropsy report; and a new training initiative for the staff was started regarding the marmosets. I will get that report to Dr. Wirtz this week.

Nancy

Nancy A. Ator, Ph.D.
Professor and Director, Division of Behavioral Biology
Vice Chair for Faculty, Interim
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Chair, Johns Hopkins University Animal Care and Use Committee

(b) (6)

ator@jhmi.edu

From: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E] <morseb@mail.nih.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 7, 2018 12:10 PM
To: Nancy Ator
Subject: December 14 marmoset report

Hello Dr. Ator,

Is there a final report or update regarding the issue with the marmoset that you reported in December? Thank you.

Regards, Brent Morse

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

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Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: [Signature]

Date: 12/14/17

Time: 10:30

Name of Person reporting: Nancy Aton PhD, chair
Telephone #: [Redacted] (b) (6)
Fax #: [Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]

Name of Institution: Johns Hopkins Univ.
Assurance number: A3272

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? _____

Funding component: _____

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____

What happened? Marmoset died when caretaker closed it in cage door.

Species involved: Marmoset
Personnel involved: Caretaker
Dates and times: _____
Animal deaths: Yes

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

Training
SOPs reviewed

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____