



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

July 25, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3646-01 [OLAW Case 1D]

Dr. Terri Fiez  
Vice Chancellor for Research  
University of Colorado – Boulder  
Campus Box 26 UCB  
Boulder, CO 80309

Dear Dr. Fiez,


The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your July 22, 2019 letter reporting an adverse event within the animal care and use program at the University of Colorado - Boulder. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that after switching from crushed dry ice to pelleted dry ice to cool the cage floor for performing the "warm spot test" three rats developed full thickness necrosis from frostbite on their tail tips. The pelleted dry ice was more efficient in cooling the cage floor. The animals were used acutely the same day and euthanized. There was no noncompliance with the protocol. It was noted that the associated animal research activity was PHS funded.

Corrective and preventive actions included returning to using crushed dry ice and increasing the cage floor temperature to the high end of the approved range. The animals tails will be monitored prior, during, immediately after, and 24 hours after testing. If problems persist, an amendment will be submitted to further raise the cage floor temperature.

OLAW believes that the corrective and preventive measures by the University of Colorado - Boulder are consistent with the provisions of the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals for institutional self-monitoring and self-reporting. 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



University of Colorado  
Boulder

Terri Fiez, Vice Chancellor for Research  
Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research  
330 Regent Administrative Center, 26 UCB  
Boulder, CO 80309-0026

[Terri.Fiez@colorado.edu](mailto:Terri.Fiez@colorado.edu)  
[www.Colorado.edu/vcr](http://www.Colorado.edu/vcr)  
t 303 492-2890  
f 303 492-5777

July 22, 2019

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

Dr. Morse,  
The University of Colorado Boulder, Assurance No. D16-00388, provides this report of adverse events discussed by the IACUC at the July 16<sup>th</sup> convened meeting where it was voted as a reportable incident.

**Protocol 2611:                      Species: Rats                      Funds: National Institutes of Health**

Three female Sprague Dawley rats developed frostbite on their tail tips after performing the "warm spot test" behavioral procedure. The veterinary team was contacted and provided consultation determining that there was severe, full thickness necrosis on the distal portion of the tails. It was agreed that the rats would be used acutely the same day and humanely euthanized. The lab recently switched from crushed dry ice to pelleted dry ice which was more efficient in cooling the cage floor and this was the reason for the adverse side effects. Going forward, the lab will:

- Return to using the crushed dry ice and increase the temperature of the cage floor to the high end of the approved temperature range (5°C) rather than the low end (0° C).
- Monitor the animals tails prior, during, immediately, and 24 hours after behavioral testing.
- If problems persist they will submit an amendment to their protocol to increase the floor temperature to (10 C).

The IACUC committee determined that the procedure had been performed within the IACUC approved protocol and previously had suffered no adverse effects. No re-training was required.

CU Boulder maintains its commitment to the health and welfare of animals used in research. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Christopher Lowry, PhD, IACUC Chair at [chris.lowry@colorado.edu](mailto:chris.lowry@colorado.edu) or Althea R. Lantron, IACUC Director at [althea.lantron@colorado.edu](mailto:althea.lantron@colorado.edu).

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

(b) (6)

Terri Fiez

Vice Chancellor for Research

Cc:

(b) (6)

Christopher Lowry, IACUC Chair      Jon Reuter, Director, Office of Animal Resources  
Althea R. Lantron, Director, IACUC

**Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]**

---

**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 24, 2019 2:59 PM  
**To:** Althea Lantron; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Letter of reportable incident - CU Boulder

Thank you for providing this report. We will send an official response soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

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

Please note that this message and any of its attachments are intended for the named recipient(s) only and may contain confidential, protected or privileged information that should not be distributed to unauthorized individuals. If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender.

**From:** Althea Lantron [mailto:Althea.Lantron@Colorado.EDU]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 24, 2019 1:13 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter of reportable incident - CU Boulder

Please see the attached.

Respectfully yours,  
**Althea R. Lantron**  
Director, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee  
University of Colorado Boulder  
2860 Wilderness Place  
603 UCB, (b) (4)  
Boulder, Colorado 80301  
T: (b) (6)  
E: [althea.lantron@colorado.edu](mailto:althea.lantron@colorado.edu)

**Be Boulder.**



University of Colorado Boulder