



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 3, 2019

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

Jon Reuter MPVM, DVM, DACLAM
Assistant Vice Chancellor of Research Integrity and Compliance
Office of Research Integrity and Compliance
University of Colorado Boulder
Administration and Research Center
3100 Marine St.
Boulder CO 80303

Dear Dr. Reuter,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your September 19, 2019 letter describing an adverse event involving a PHS funded animal activity, which had not been preceded by a preliminary report to OLAW. According to the information provided, our office understands that several voles escaped their enclosure over a weekend due to a loose PVC cage connector. All voles (two adults and five pups) were recovered, examined, found to be healthy and returned to the cage. Veterinary and laboratory staff were subsequently notified. The next day, one of the pups in the cage was found dead. It is unclear if this was one of the pups that escaped, and a necropsy failed to confirm the cause of death. Regarding the escape, the cause of the PVC connector loosening could not be ascertained, but it was noted that there was a recent cage change and at that time, the connector was firmly fitted.

We appreciate having been informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office at this time. However, your institution may wish to consider actions to prevent recurrence of this adverse event. Examples may include but are not limited to implementing cage connector checks or evaluating fastening methods to engage connectors more securely. Please also note that reports of noncompliance to OLAW should include dates of occurrence when describing the incident. Please include this information in future submissions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Nicolette Petervary, VMD, DACAW
Animal Welfare Policy Specialist
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

CC: IACUC contact
Robert Gibbens, D.V.M., USDA-APHIS-AC

A3646-1F



University of Colorado
Boulder

Jon Reuter, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Research Integrity & Compliance
Office of Research Integrity and Compliance
Administrative and Research Center
3100 Marine St
Boulder, CO 80301

Jon.Reuter@Colorado.edu
www.Colorado.edu/vcr
t 303 492-735-5809

September 19, 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 September 17th convened meeting where it was voted as a reportable incident.

Protocol: 2435

Species: Voles

Funds: NIH DP2OD026143, U01 NS099577 and NSF IOS-1827790

On a Monday at approximately 11:00 am, an OAR staff member discovered several voles outside their cage. Three pups (16 days old) and one adult were found on the rack shelf and the floor of the room, with the remaining 2 pups and one adult still inside the cage. On further inspection, the PVC pipe that connects the two cages used for vole housing had become dislodged, allowing the voles to escape. On initial exam, all voles appeared healthy and were returned to the cage, and OAR veterinary and lab staff were notified. The following morning one of the vole pups from the cage was found dead.

Investigation of the incident suggests that the escape occurred between Sunday evening and Monday morning. The specific cause for dislodgement of the PVC pipe is unclear. The cage in question was changed the Thursday prior to the event and at that time the PVC pipe was fitted securely between the two cages. A necropsy was performed but, due to the state of decomposition of the carcass at the time, the necropsy could not confirm cause of death. Furthermore, it is uncertain if the pup that died was one of the pups that had escaped.

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 A. Lowry, PhD, IACUC Chair at christopher.lowry@colorado.edu or Althea R. Lantron, IACUC Director, at althea.lantron@colorado.edu.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

(b) (6)

4125465D430945A...
Jon Reuter,

Assistant Vice Chancellor of Research Integrity and Compliance

Cc: Sara Hashway, Director, Office of Animal Resources
Althea R. Lantron, Director, IACUC

Christopher A. Lowry, IACUC Chair

Na, Jane (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2019 4:33 PM
To: IACUC Office
Cc: Althea Lantron; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Non-Compliance Report

Thank you for these two reports. We will send an official response soon.

Jane

Jane Na, DVM, CPIA
Veterinary Medical Officer
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Phone (301) 402-1922
E-fax (301) 451-5609

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From: IACUC Office <iacucoffice@colorado.edu>
Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2019 4:04 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Althea Lantron <Althea.Lantron@Colorado.EDU>
Subject: Non-Compliance Report

Hello,

Attached are two events we are reporting to OLAW.

Thank you.

(b) (6)



Be Boulder.



University of Colorado Boulder