



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) 480-3387

July 7, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3102-01 [OLAW Case 1X]

Dr. Ann B. Nattinger
Senior Associate Dean for Research
Medical College of Wisconsin
8701 Watertown Plank Road
Milwaukee, WI 53226

Dear Dr. Nattinger,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your June 18, 2020 letter reporting an adverse event within the animal care and use program at the Medical College of Wisconsin. According to the information supplied OLAW understands that on June 9, 2020 a water leak from a storm water conductor pipe in the ceiling of an animal housing room caused flooding of mouse cages in the room and the death of 26 mice. Mice in an additional 40 cages survived due to intervention by the BRC supervisor. It was not stated if the affected animals were assigned to an activity that is funded by the PHS.

To address the issue, the cast iron pipe will be replaced with plastic pipe in early July.

The prompt consideration of this matter by the Medical College of Wisconsin was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. OLAW commends the swift actions of the BRC supervisor and the MCW facilities personnel. The corrective actions taken to resolve the issue and prevent recurrence are accepted by OLAW. We find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

Brent C. Morse -S

Digitally signed by Brent C.
Morse -S
Date: 2020.07.07 10:22:20 -04'00'

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

cc: IACUC Contact



June 18, 2020

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

Re: Medical College of Wisconsin
Assurance Number: D16-00064 (A3102-01)

Dear Dr. Morse,

We wish to report a recent unexpected adverse event which resulted in animal deaths. We are also notifying AAALAC, International.

Incident

On June 9, 2020 at approximately 9:30pm, a Biomedical Resource Center (BRC) supervisor received a call from Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) Facilities to inform her of a serious water leak in a mouse holding room. They reported water coming from a light fixture causing some of the mouse cages to become wet, and they were on-site addressing the issue. The BRC supervisor arrived approximately 10:00pm. At that point, Facilities had cut a hole in the ceiling to remove the water from the space above the ceiling, and water was still flowing from the hole into the room and out into the hallway. Two racks of mouse cages had been pulled away from the water flow; however, there was extensive water intrusion into the majority of the cages. Eleven cages were filled completely to the top, and the 26 animals housed in them were dead. Approximately 40 additional cages had varying levels of water in them. The supervisor immediately relocated the animals to an adjacent room and changed out the wet and flooded cages. All the animals in these cages survived. The investigators impacted by this event were notified, and as of the morning of June 10, 2020, the water flow had ceased.

Corrective Action

Facilities identified the source of the water to be a storm water conductor pipe located above the ceiling of the affected room and adjacent rooms. Although sections of the pipe have been replaced in the past due to leakage, some portions of the original cast iron pipe remain. Portions of the pipe have been wrapped as a temporary fix and a contractor was hired to evaluate what repairs will need to be made; full repair, including replacement of the cast iron pipe with plastic pipe, is scheduled to be completed in early July.

The incident was reported to the IACUC at a convened meeting of a quorum on June 17, 2020. The Committee felt the actions taken the BRC staff were prompt and appropriate.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Respectfully,

(b) (6)

Ann B. Nattinger, MD, MPH
Associate Provost for Research
8701 Watertown Plank Road
Milwaukee, WI 53226

O: (b) (6)

F: (b) (6)

Email: anatting@mcw.edu

cc: John D. Imig, PhD, MCW IACUC Chair

(b) (6)

Joseph Thulin, DVM, DACLAM, MCW Attending Veterinarian

(b) (6)

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2020 7:38 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Reportable Event - Medical College of Wisconsin, Assurance Number D16-00064 (A3102-01)

Thank you for this report, (b) (6) We will send a response soon.

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director, OLAW

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2020 11:45 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Imig, John <jdimig@mcw.edu>; Thulin, Joseph <jthulin@mcw.edu>; (b) (6)
Nattinger, Ann <anattng@mcw.edu>
Subject: Reportable Event - Medical College of Wisconsin, Assurance Number D16-00064 (A3102-01)

Hello,

Attached please find a written report of a reportable situation from the Medical College of Wisconsin, Assurance Number D16-00064 (A3102-01).

Respectfully,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)