



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 28, 2020

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

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 July 3, 2020 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Medical College of Wisconsin. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on June 17, 2020, a Principal Investigator (PI) received a shipment of four hamsters for a study in which the animals were to be euthanized on the day of arrival without the need for animal facility housing. Two hamsters were euthanized as scheduled and two remaining hamsters were housed overnight in the PI laboratory in separate cages with food and water. The delay in euthanasia of the two remaining hamsters was due to unexpected issues post-euthanasia with schistosome harvesting procedures. The study was supported with PHS funding.

As a corrective measure, the PI promptly reported the situation to the IACUC with a full explanation regarding incorrectly advising laboratory members to house the hamsters in the lab overnight and a misunderstanding regarding animal facility housing options. The two remaining hamsters were moved to the animal facility after consultation with a Staff Veterinarian and animal facility supervisor. The PI reiterated to laboratory staff that animals cannot be housed in the laboratory without IACUC approval and animal facility staff should be consulted if unanticipated concerns arise.

OLAW appreciates the prompt consideration of this matter by the Medical College of Wisconsin which is consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate steps have been taken to investigate this incident and to attempt to prevent recurrence. We appreciate being informed of this matter and please contact us with any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Nicole L.
Lukovsky-
akhsanov -S

Digitally signed by
Nicole L. Lukovsky-
akhsanov -S
Date: 2020.07.28
13:08:36 -04'00'

Nicole Lukovsky-Akhsanov, DVM, MPH, DACLAM
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC contact



July 3, 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)
Animal Use Application: 6476

Dear Dr. Morse,

We wish to report a noncompliant situation involving the overnight housing of two (2) hamsters in a laboratory without IACUC approval. This letter will describe the incident and our IACUC's response. We are also notifying AAALAC, International.

Incident

On Wednesday, June 17, 2020, a Principal Investigator (PI) received a shipment of four Syrian hamsters from a collaborator for the purpose of harvesting schistosomes worms. Although the intent was to euthanize all animals on the day of arrival without needing animal facility (BRC) housing, only two hamsters were euthanized and worms collected per the approval protocol; the remaining two hamsters were instead housed overnight in the laboratory in separate cages with food and water. The delay in euthanasia was the result of the study staff using a new protocol for harvest from a hamster model; they encountered unexpected problems with the post-euthanasia harvesting protocol that they had not previously encountered with their usual specialized protocol for mice. The PI accepted full responsibility for housing the remaining animals overnight and promptly reported the situation to the IACUC, explaining that he had not understood that housing in the BRC was an option and had instead communicated to his staff that these animals were not to be housed in the BRC. The two hamsters were subsequently returned to the animal facility after consultation with a Staff Veterinarian and BRC Supervisor.

The PI reiterated to his staff that animals cannot be housed in the laboratory without IACUC approval and that BRC staff should always be consulted if unanticipated problems arise.

8701 Watertown Plank Road
Post Office Box 26509
Milwaukee, WI 53226-0509

IACUC Action

The IACUC discussed the self-report at a meeting on July 1, 2020. Because of the PI's prompt self-report and corrective measures and because the animals showed no adverse effects, the IACUC decided not to take any further disciplinary action.

Records indicate that funding for this study includes a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) entitled *Identification of targets of the antiparasitic drug praziquantel*, 1R01AI14587-01A1.

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: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 7:23 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 respond soon.

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2020 1:58 PM
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 <anatting@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)