



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

February 14, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3464-01 [OLAW Case 11P]

Sally Thompson-Iritani, DVM, PhD, CPIA, CCFP
Associate Vice Provost
University of Washington
4000 15th Ave NE Box 351202
Seattle, WA 98195-6355

Dear Dr. Thompson-Iritani,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your February 3, 2022 letter reporting two incidents of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Washington. Your letter supplements the information in the prompt preliminary telephone report on December 16, 2021. According to the information provided it is understood that in the first incident, two of five adult female mice were discovered dead in the cage. The cage had no food in the feed hopper. The remaining three mice were treated and recovered. The mice had not been handled by the lab. Husbandry had last changed the cage eight days prior. In the second incident, a cage containing a breeding trio with eight live pups and two dead pups was found without food. The live animals received supportive care, and all recovered. The cage was likely last handled by the room technician nine days prior when the rack was changed. The animals in question were not supported by PHS funds.

Corrective and preventive actions: The Department of Comparative Medicine (DCM) re-trained all technicians that worked in these spaces during that time period and implemented a mystery cage program in those rooms to ensure that an animal technician is checking cages appropriately. If a technician repeatedly does not spot the mystery cage, then personnel action is taken. In January, DCM started a pilot study in one of their facilities where all cages placed in the rooms for investigators already have food in the hopper. DCM expects to evaluate the data after six months to determine the effectiveness of this potential solution.

OLAW believes that the corrective and preventive measures put in place by the University of Washington 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 look forward to the results of your preventive actions. OLAW views instances of lack of basic living requirements such as food, water, and a proper cage environment with great concern. We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this office, at this time.

Sincerely,

Brent C. Morse -S-

Digitally signed by Brent C. Morse

-S-
Date: 2022.02.14 09:04:11 -05'00'

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

cc: IACUC contact



3 February, 2022

Dr. Brent Morse olawdco@od.nih.gov
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare, NIH
Rockledge 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892

Re: D16-00292 (A3464-01), Mouse Mortality Due to No Access to Food

Dear Dr. Morse:

This is a final report on 2 adverse events reported to OLAW by Dr. Stocking in a telephone call on 12/16/21.

In the first incident, a lab member discovered two of 5 adult female mice dead in the cage. The cage had no food in the feed hopper. The remaining 3 mice were treated and recovered. The mice had not been handled by the lab. Husbandry had last changed the cage 8 days prior.

In the second incident, a cage containing a breeding trio with 8 live pups and 2 dead pups was found without food. The live animals received supportive care, and all recovered. The cage was likely last handled by the room technician 9 days prior when the rack was changed.

Corrective Actions by Department of Comparative Medicine (DCM): Re-trained all technicians that worked in these spaces during that time period and implemented a mystery cage program in those rooms to ensure that an animal technician is checking cages appropriately. If a technician repeatedly does not spot the mystery cage, then personnel action is taken. In January, DCM started a pilot study in one of their facilities where all cages placed in the rooms for investigators already have food in the hopper. DCM expects to evaluate the data after six months to determine the effectiveness of this potential solution.

The IACUC reviewed the incident at its January meeting and found no further action necessary (considers the case closed.) The animals in question were not supported by PHS funds.

If you have questions regarding this situation or require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Sally Thompson-Iritani DVM/PhD, CPIA, CCFP
Institutional Official
Asst. Vice Provost, Animal Care, Outreach & 3Rs
Clinical Associate Professor, DEOHS, SPH

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON
Office of Research

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON
Office of Research

Cc:



(b) (6)

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Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Friday, February 4, 2022 7:18 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Final report of 2 non-compliant events

Thank you for these reports, (b) (6) We will send responses soon.

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:03 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) Sally Thompson-Iritani <sti2@uw.edu>; accredit@aaalac.org; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Final report of 2 non-compliant events

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and are confident the content is safe.

Please see the attached final report of 2 noncompliant events at the University of Washington. Please let me know if you have any questions.

(b) (6)





A3464-11P

Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: BCM

Date: **12/22/2021**

Time: voicemail

Name of Person reporting: Kim Stocking, AV

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: Univ. of Washington

Assurance number: A3464

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? ??

Funding component:

Was funding component contacted (if necessary):

What happened? Two incidents of "animals" found dead in cages without food. Cages not handled since last cage-change. Not discovered on daily health checks.

Species involved: ?

Personnel involved: care staff

Dates and times: ?

Animal deaths: Yes

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

To be presented to IACUC

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

< 60 days

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Case #