



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  
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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  
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April 7, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3078-01 [OLAW Case I]

Gary R. Kinsel, PhD  
Vice Chancellor for Research  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
Woody Hall 350  
Carbondale, IL 62901

Dear Dr. Kinsel,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your April 1, 2022, letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Southern Illinois University Carbondale. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a Principal Investigator (PI) administered an immunosuppressant drug in drinking water to five mice without prior IACUC approval. The noncompliance was identified by an animal care worker when one of the water bottles was found to be leaking in the cage with a posted colored tag indicative of a potential biohazard. Apparently, the PI did not realize that although this drug treatment was approved in the original old protocol, it was not included in the new protocol that was renewed and approved on September 21, 2021. There were no animal welfare or personnel safety issues to report as a result of the noncompliance. Although the associated animal activities were partially supported by the PHS, no unauthorized costs were charged to the grant.

The corrective actions consisted of immediately halting the drug treatment and amending the protocol. The IACUC mandated that the PI complete the refresher online CITI training module "Working with the IACUC" and conduct a complete review of the new protocol, comparing it to the older protocol to ensure all activities that will be performed were included and approved on the new protocol. In an effort to prevent future water bottle leakage, the PI, laboratory personnel and Laboratory Animal Programs staff were retrained on the proper placement of sipper tubes when adding a drug treatment to drinking water. In addition, any water or cage changes, as well as other husbandry duties, performed by the PI or students will be recorded on a "Husbandry by Investigator" form. Post-approval monitoring audits of the PI's lab and animal rooms will be conducted four times annually.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate, correct and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. We appreciate having been informed about this matter and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT  
Associate Director, Animal Welfare Policy  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health

cc: IACUC Chair