



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 6, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3255-01 [OLAW Case 2X]

Dr. Christopher S. Brown
Institutional Official
Vice President for Research
University of Alabama- Birmingham
1720 2nd Ave. S, 720C
Birmingham, AL 35294

Dear Dr. Brown,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your June 7, 2022 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Alabama at Birmingham following up on an initial March 9, 2022 notification.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the University of Alabama at Birmingham Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to failure to adhere to the IACUC-approved protocol. The final report states a lab member used isoflurane inhalation to briefly restrain 4 mice. The use of isoflurane for restraint was not approved in the protocol. It is also stated that 3 mice did not recover from anesthesia, even though the correct dose was used by the individual. In response to the incident, the individual was retrained by their supervisor and the Compliance Specialist followed up with additional instructions. It is noted that this research is supported by NIH funding and OLAW assumes the IACUC found the corrective actions to be appropriate.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the University of Alabama at Birmingham has implemented appropriate measures to correct and prevent recurrences of these problems and is now compliant with provisions of the PHS Policy.

We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn
T. Tubbs -S

Digitally signed by
Jacquelyn T. Tubbs -S
Date: 2022.07.06
08:35:18 -04'00'

Jacquelyn Tubbs, DVM, DACLAM
Senior Animal Welfare Program Specialist
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Contact

UAB THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

June 7, 2022

Brent Morse, D.V.M.
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6705 Rockledge Drive
RKL1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982
Assurance # A3255-01

Dear Dr. Morse:

Below is the description of unapproved deviations from the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and/or the PHS Policy identified and included in a preliminary report to OLAW on March 9, 2022. The incident of non-compliance was self-reported by the lab. The corrective action is also described.

Deviation from protocol

A lab member used isoflurane inhalation to briefly restrain 4 mice. While isoflurane is approved for other procedures in this protocol it was not approved for restraint. Although the correct dose was provided, 3 of the mice did not recover from anesthesia most likely due to their state of obesity. This incident involved work funded by NIH awards P30DK079626 and P30AG050886. The lab member was immediately retrained by their supervisor, and the Compliance Specialist followed-up with additional instruction.

If you require additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Christopher S. Brown, Ph.D.
Institutional Official and Vice President for Research

cc:

(b) (6)
Robert A. Kesterson, Ph.D., IACUC Chair

(b) (6)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
403 Community Health
933 19th St S
205.934.7692
FAX 205.934.1188

Mailing Address:
403 CH19
1530 3RD AVE S
BIRMINGHAM AL 35294-2041

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 8:56 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: final reports

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: Monday, June 13, 2022 12:35 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] final reports

Please find attached 2 final reports for noncompliance previously reported to Dr. Wolff. Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thank you,

(b) (6)

A3255-2X



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: (b) (6)

Date: 3/9/22

Time: 10⁰⁰

Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email: Wattsaj@uab.edu

Name of Institution: U of Alabama - Birmingham

Assurance number: A3255

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? yes

Funding component: _____

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____

What happened?

*Deviation from protocol. Mice sedated for imaging + died.
Mice were obese. Anesthetic approved but not for identifying
ear tags.*

Species involved: Mice

Personnel involved: _____

Dates and times: _____

Animal deaths: 3

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

Reprimand, retraining.

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____