



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive B MSC 7982
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 480-3387

July 21, 2021

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3442-01 [OLAW Case 3F]

Matthew Hodgson
Vice President, Research Compliance
And Regulatory Affairs
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Roberts Center for Pediatric Research
2716 South Street, (b) (4)
Philadelphia, PA 19146

Dear Mr. Hodgson,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your July 14, 2021 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). This letter had not been preceded by a preliminary report to OLAW.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the CHOP Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to: rabbits escaping their primary enclosure. The final report states in May and April 2021, there were six instances involving rabbits escaping from their cages. In one incident, a rabbit was found with edema and erythema of the upper lip and subsequently received a dose of analgesia and recovered uneventfully. Another incident involved a rabbit found with a spinal injury resulting in paralysis, and the decision was made to euthanize the animal.

The IACUC discussed these events at the meeting held on June 14, 2021. It is stated a thorough assessment of the rabbit caging revealed several factors which facilitated the rabbits' ability to escape from their primary enclosures. In response, the Department of Veterinary Resources husbandry team requested the vendor come on site to assess the caging, ordered, and replaced worn parts, and began sourcing replacement caging from multiple vendors. It is understood the IACUC voted to report the matter to this Office.

The final report also notes that these animals were not supported by PHS funds. Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia has implemented appropriate measures to correct and prevent recurrences of these problems. 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: 2021.07.21 14:54:50
-04'00'

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

cc: IACUC Contact

Matthew Hodgson
 Vice President, Research Compliance & Regulatory Affairs
 Roberts Center for Pediatric Research, Office 17121
 2716 South Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19146
 267-426-8723

July 14, 2021

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 20892-7982

Dear Dr. Morse,

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), in accordance with Assurance D16-00280 (A3442-01) and PHS Policy IV.F.3., submits this report of noncompliance regarding the following incident:

In the months of April and May 2021, the DVR staff reported six incidents of rabbits escaping from their cages within the animal facility. In one such instance, a single animal was found with edema and erythema on the upper lip. The rabbit was examined by a Department of Veterinary Resources (DVR) veterinarian and administered a dose of meloxicam. This animal recovered without further issues or need for additional analgesics. In a subsequent incident, another animal was found with a spinal injury after jumping from the top cage. This resulted in the animal becoming paralyzed which affected mobility. The DVR veterinary team assessed the animal and made the decision to euthanize immediately. No NIH funding was used to support these animals.

These incidents were discussed at our regularly scheduled monthly IACUC meeting on 6/14/2021. No subsequent escapes have occurred. In doing a thorough assessment of existing rabbit caging, several factors were discovered which facilitated the above-mentioned animals being able to escape from their primary enclosures. Considering these findings, the DVR husbandry team immediately requested the vendor come on site to assess the caging, ordered and replaced worn parts, and began sourcing replacement caging from multiple vendors. The IACUC voted to report this incident to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), with a copy to AAALAC International.

The CHOP Research Institute and the IACUC is committed to the highest levels of animal care and welfare. While unexpected and unfortunate, we believe these steps taken to address the equipment failures are appropriate to address the issues that were identified. Should OLAW determine the need for additional measures or desire additional information regarding these events, please do not hesitate to contact me, our IACUC Chair (Laurence C. Eisenlohr, VMD, PhD), or the Attending Veterinarian (Laike Stewart, DVM, DACLAM).



**Children's Hospital
 of Philadelphia**
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

CR Matthew Hodgson
Institutional Official

cc: AAALAC

(b) (6)

Laurence C. Eisenlohr, VMD, PhD; IACUC Chair
Laike Stewart, DVM, DACLAM; Sr. Director and Attending Veterinarian



**Children's Hospital
of Philadelphia**
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 8:05 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: OLAW Assurance D16-00280 A3442-01_- Report of Noncompliance

Thank you for this report. We will send a response soon.

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 5:01 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Hodgson, Matthew <HODGSONM@chop.edu>; Eisenlohr, Laurence <eisenlc@pennmedicine.upenn.edu>; Stewart, Laike S <STEWARTL3@chop.edu>
Subject: OLAW Assurance D16-00280 A3442-01_- Report of Noncompliance

Dear OLAW,

Attached to this email please find a report of noncompliance with the PHS Policy. We look forward to your review of this matter.

Thank you,
(b) (6)

(b) (6)

*****If this email arrives outside of your working hours, please do not feel obligated to respond until you are back at work.*****

Please visit the [CHOP IACUC Website](#)



Report Compliance Concerns Anonymously
To report compliance concerns anonymously,
contact the Compliance Hotline 1-866-246-7456 or

www.mycompliancereport.com (use "CHOP" as the access ID).