



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  
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January 20, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#A3354-01 (OLAW Case 2A)

[REDACTED]  
Executive Director of Regulatory Support  
Institutional Official  
State University of New York - University of Buffalo  
[REDACTED]  
Buffalo, NY 14260

Dear [REDACTED],

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 7, 2022 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York. This letter had not been preceded by a preliminary report to OLAW.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the University at Buffalo, State University of New York Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to: failure to perform aseptic technique. The final report states a laboratory was identified not using aseptic technique during a cannulation procedure. The incident was reported by a Department of Health Inspector. The individuals were noted performing surgery using non-sterile gloves. Also, the surgical field and surgical instruments were compromised, and non-sterile items were located within the surgical field. It is understood 32 mice underwent the procedure, and no complications were observed in the animals due to lack of aseptic technique.

On December 20, 2021, the IACUC reviewed the Principal Investigator's letter describing how they will provide laboratory personnel with appropriate oversight and ensure aseptic technique is adhered to. The individuals associated with the event completed their retraining requirements. It is understood the committee accepted the retraining of personnel and the investigator's corrective action plan.

It is noted the study is supported by NIH funding. Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the University at Buffalo, State University of New York 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: 2022.01.20 13:42:57  
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Jacquelyn Tubbs, DVM, DACLAM  
Senior Animal Welfare Program Specialist  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare