



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 1, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#A3021-01 (OLAW Case 4Y)

Ms. Jennifer Lassner  
Senior Assistant Vice President for Research  
The University of Iowa  
Office for the Vice President for Research  
2660 University Capitol Centre  
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

Dear Ms. Lassner,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 24, 2022 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Iowa. This letter had not been preceded by a preliminary report to OLAW.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the University of Iowa Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to: failure to adhere to institutional policies/procedures. The final report states a mouse was found dead on December 15, 2021. It was determined an animal care technician did not adhere to the established procedures for clinical cases. As a result, the veterinary technician was not able to evaluate the animal in a timely manner.

In response to the incident, the technician was properly retrained and the IACUC voted to report the incident to appropriate agencies. It is noted that the final report did not include the funding source involving the incident. In the future, please include the source of funding and provide grant numbers for all PHS, NSF or NASA supported work.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the University of Iowa 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: 2022.02.01  
15:37:08 -05'00'

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

cc: IACUC Contact



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February 1, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#A3021-01 (OLAW Case 4Z)

Ms. Jennifer Lassner  
Senior Assistant Vice President for Research  
The University of Iowa  
Office for the Vice President for Research  
2660 University Capitol Centre  
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

Dear Ms. Lassner,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 24, 2022 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Iowa. This letter had not been preceded by a preliminary report to OLAW.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the University of Iowa Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to: the conduct of animal activities prior to IACUC review and approval. The final report states on January 6, 2022, a laboratory self-reported that they conducted an unapproved surgical procedure on six mice. It is stated the procedure and post-procedural management was approved in rats (and not mice) in the protocol. The animals were evaluated by veterinary staff and one mouse required euthanasia due to health concerns. It is understood the Principal Investigator agreed that no data from these animals would be used for publication or grant proposals.

In response to the incident, the lab members were retrained, and an amendment was filed to the protocol. The IACUC members discussed the matter on January 12, 2022 and voted to report to the appropriate agencies. It is noted this research is supported by applicable funding with OLAW oversight.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the University of Iowa 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: 2022.02.01  
15:31:46 -05'00'

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

cc: IACUC Contact



**Office of the Vice  
President for Research**

University of Iowa  
2660 University Capitol Centre  
Iowa City, Iowa 52242  
319-335-2119  
[research.uiowa.edu](http://research.uiowa.edu)

January 24, 2022

Brent Morse, DVM  
Director, Division of Compliance and Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)  
National Institutes of Health  
6700B Rockledge Drive  
Suite 2500, MSC 6910  
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Morse:

This letter is to report an incident involving a mouse. The University of Iowa PHS Assurance Number is D16-00009 (A3021-01).

December 15, 2021: A mouse was found dead in the cage. Upon review of the case it was found that an animal care technician did not follow the established procedures for clinical cases (medical records SOP). This resulted in a veterinary technician not evaluating the animal in a timely manner.

The IACUC Office was promptly notified. The animal care technician was properly retrained.

January 12, 2022: The IACUC members discussed the incident at a convened meeting and voted to report to the appropriate agencies.

I have reviewed the event and believe it was appropriately managed and fully addressed. If you have any questions pertaining to this report, please contact me.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature of Jennifer Lassner.

Jennifer Lassner  
Institutional Official  
Associate Vice President for Research

## Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022 7:17 AM  
**To:** IACUC  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Report of non-compliance incident

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

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

**From:** IACUC <iacuc@uiowa.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 24, 2022 12:53 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** accredit@aaalac.org  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Report of non-compliance incident

**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 attached reports of non-compliance at the University of Iowa.

Thank you,

(b) (6)