



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

January 21, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3269-01 [OLAW Case 4T]

Dr. Alison Lakin  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Regulatory Compliance  
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center  
13001 East 17th Place  
Anschutz Medical Campus Bldg. 500  
Denver, Colorado 80262

Dear Dr. Lakin,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your December 9, 2021 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Colorado - Denver. This letter had not been preceded by a preliminary report to OLAW.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the University of Colorado - Denver Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to: the deaths of animals due to failure to perform euthanasia. The final report states an investigator self-reported when performing several cage separations. One cage housing only mouse pups was returned to the rack instead of being euthanized. As a result, 11 mouse pups died.

In response to the incident, the investigator counseled the lab members, and the lab will alter their process in the future to only handle one cage at a time to avoid future recurrence. At a convened meeting of a quorum of the IACUC, the committee accepted the actions taken.

It is noted the investigator is supported by NIH funding. Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the University of Colorado - Denver 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: 2022.01.21 08:42:25  
-05'00'

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

cc: IACUC Contact



University of Colorado  
Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

Office of the Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee (IACUC)

A3269-4T

Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee  
Office for Research Committee Support  
Mail Stop F489  
13001 E. 17th Place  
Aurora, CO 80045  
303-724-1056  
[www.ucdenver.edu/animal](http://www.ucdenver.edu/animal)

December 9, 2021

Animal Welfare Assurance # D16-00171

Brent Morse, DVM  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
Rockledge One, Suite 360  
6705 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7892  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982

Dear Dr. Morse;

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) at the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus received a report of an animal welfare incident; specifically, the PI self-reported when performing several cage separations, one cage containing only mouse pups was returned to the rack instead of being euthanized. This resulted in the death of eleven mouse pups.

The Primary Investigator counselled the lab members and the lab will alter their process in the future to only deal with one cage at a time to avoiding the confusion that led to this error.

At a convened meeting of a quorum of the IACUC, a majority of the quorum present determined to accept the actions as taken. The Committee determined further that the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) be informed of this incident. (NIH Grant # AI066121)

Please let me know if you require further information.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Alison Lakin RN, LLB, LLM, PhD  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Regulatory Compliance  
University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

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

---

**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 15, 2021 7:34 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: UC Denver (D16-00171) - initial and final animal 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:** Friday, December 10, 2021 1:47 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] UC Denver (D16-00171) - initial and final animal reports

**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.

Animal Welfare Assurance D16-00171

Dear Dr. Morse,

Please find attached four animal reports for your review.

These are the initial and final animal reports that the IACUC determined needed to be reported to OLAW, based on OLAW guidance.

These reports did not have a preliminary email notification to OLAW.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)