



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) 402-7065

September 30, 2021

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3292-01 [OLAW Case 1Z]

Dr. Mark B. Taubman, M.D.
Senior University VP for Health Sciences,
CEO of Medical Center and Strong Hospital
University of Rochester
601 Elmwood Avenue, Box 706
Rochester, NY 14642

Dear Dr. Taubman,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your August 18, 2021 final letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Rochester. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on August 18, 2021 the University Committee on Animal Resources discussed the Vivarium self-report of a discovery that over the weekend, a plug was accidentally disconnected on a ventilated rack containing 300 mice of which, a total of 20 mice had died. Funding information for the study was not provided.

As a corrective measure, the vivarium submitted an action plan including retraining, detailed logging and the installation of lockboxes to prevent a rack from being pulled away from an active outlet.

OLAW appreciates the prompt consideration of this matter by the University of Rochester which is consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. OLAW expects continuing post-approval monitoring to prevent recurrence of this non-compliance and potential associated animal welfare concerns. Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate steps have been taken to investigate this incident and to attempt to prevent recurrence.

We appreciate being informed of this matter and please contact us with any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Nicole Lukovsky-Akhsanov, DVM, MPH, DACLAM
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

CC: IACUC contact

Mark B. Taubman, MD
CEO, University of Rochester Medical Center and UR Medicine
Dean, School of Medicine and Dentistry
Senior Vice President for Health Sciences



UNIVERSITY of
ROCHESTER
MEDICAL CENTER

MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER

August 18, 2021

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge Once, Suite 360
67005 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7982
Bethesda, Maryland 20892 – 7982

Ref: Animal Welfare Assurance No. D16-00188

Dear Dr. Wolff:

I am attaching a report from the University Committee on Animal Resource regarding a non-compliance issue.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Chair of the Committee, Dr. Chris Stodgell, if you wish further information. You can call the UCAR office at (b) (6) or his email address is chris_stodgell@urmc.rochester.edu

Yours truly,

(b) (6)

Mark B. Taubman, M.D.
CEO, URM and UR Medicine
Dean, School of Medicine and Dentistry
University Vice President for Health Sciences

Attachment

THE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL RESOURCES

TO: Mark Taubman, M.D.
CEO, URM and UR Medicine
Dean, School of Medicine and Dentistry
University Vice President for Health Sciences

FROM: Chris Stodgell, Ph.D.
Chair, University Committee on Animal Resources

DATE: August 18, 2021

SUBJECT: Report of Non-Compliance

During the August 18, 2021, meeting of the University Committee on Animal Resources there was a discussion of a serious issue of non-compliance concerning a ventilated mouse rack that became unplugged and caused the death of several animals.

The Vivarium office self-reported the discovery that over the weekend, the plug had accidentally been disconnected for a PNC ventilation rack containing approximately 300 mice; 17 mice had died with an additional 3 subsequently succumbing.

The Vivarium submitted an action plan to ensure that this will not occur; this plan includes retraining, detailed logging, and the installation of lockboxes to prevent a rack from being pulled away from an active outlet. The committee reviewed and approved the plan, but still voted to report this incident of noncompliance to OLAW.

Copy: [REDACTED] (b) (6)

CS/jz

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 7:20 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: URMCM Report of Non-Compliance

Thank you for this report, (b) (6) Please send all future noncompliance reports to olawdco@od.nih.gov
Axel Wolff

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, August 26, 2021 11:24 AM
To: Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E] <wolffa@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: URMCM Report of Non-Compliance

Hello Dr. Wolff:

Attached please find a report of non-compliance from the University of Rochester Medical Center. If you have any questions or need any further information, please contact me at your convenience.

Thank you,

(b) (6)