



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

June 28, 2021

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3306-01 [OLAW Case 3E]

Dr. Terence Flotte
Dean, Provost and Executive Deputy Chancellor
University of Massachusetts Medical School
55 Lake Avenue North
Worcester, MA 01655

Dear Dr. Flotte,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your June 15, 2021 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that due to the expiration of a protocol, 104 mice were moved to the central holding protocol. Breeding is not approved under the holding protocol but the mice had not been separated and breeding continued. A laboratory member separated the breeders although handling of the animals by the researcher had not been approved while on the holding protocol.

The corrective actions consisted of notifying the Principal Investigator and staff that they are not permitted to handle animals on the holding protocol. The Department of Animal Medicine staff was retrained by the Attending Veterinarian to ensure that breeders are separated while on the holding protocol.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to correct and prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the institution to comply with the PHS Policy.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair



Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)
Office of Research
University of Massachusetts Medical School
55 Lake Avenue North
Worcester, MA 01655-0002

6/15/2021

Dear members of the Division of Compliance Oversight,

The University of Massachusetts Medical School, in accordance with Assurance #D16-00196 (A3306-01) provides this report of protocol noncompliance for your consideration, associated with IACUC protocol Legacy 1910-18.

IACUC protocol Legacy 1910-18 is an IACUC-approved blanket holding protocol for which the UMMS Attending Veterinarian is the PI of. On March 2, 2021, an experimental protocol lapsed, and 104 mice were transferred to the blanket holding protocol. Breeding is not an approved activity on the blanket holding protocol, and it is standard practice for Department of Animal Medicine staff to separate breeders while being held. The breeding mice were inadvertently not separated upon transfer and therefore breeding continued. A member of the laboratory noticed that breeding cages had not been separated and did so on behalf of Department of Animal Medicine. This researcher was not approved to handle animals on this protocol.

The Department of Animal Medicine husbandry supervisor immediately notified research personnel (and the PI) that they are prohibited from handling animals while on a holding protocol. The remaining breeding cages were immediately separated by Animal Medicine staff.

This incident was reported to the IACUC on 3/29/2021 and discussed by full committee on 4/26/2021. As a corrective action, the Attending Veterinarian met with Department of Animal Medicine staff to discuss the specific reason for this occurrence and retrained on procedures for separating breeding animals while on a holding protocol to prevent this in the future. The IACUC required no further actions.

NIH funds were not used to support the activities described in this report.

Thank you for consideration of this matter. Please contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Terence R. Flotte, M.D.
Institutional Official
Dean of the School of Medicine, Provost and Executive Deputy Chancellor
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 7:15 AM
To: Moran, Casey
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: OLAW reports University of Massachusetts A3306 (D16-00196); A-1506-18 and Legacy1910-18

Thank you for these reports. We will send responses soon.

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

From: Moran, Casey <Casey.Moran@umassmed.edu>
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 12:52 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Subject: OLAW reports University of Massachusetts A3306 (D16-00196); A-1506-18 and Legacy1910-18

Dear members of the Division of Compliance Oversight,

Re: Assurance #A3306 (D16-00196); A-1506-18 and Legacy1910-18

On behalf of the University of Massachusetts Medical School Institutional Official, Dean Flotte, I am submitting two final reports for your consideration. Should you have any questions regarding these reports, please contact me.

We appreciate your guidance and assistance.

Thank you,
Casey

Casey Moran
Director, IACUC/IBC Office
<http://inside.umassmed.edu/iacuc/>
<http://inside.umassmed.edu/IBC/>



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