



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

July 1, 2021

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3646-01 [OLAW Case 1R]

Dr. Jon Reuter
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research Integrity and Compliance
University of Colorado – Boulder
3100 Marine Street, UCB 563 (b) (4)
Boulder, CO 80309

Dear Dr. Reuter,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your June 21, 2021 letter describing a noncompliance with the PHS Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals within the animal care and use program at the University of Colorado - Boulder. Your letter supplements the information in the preliminary telephone report of June 4, 2021. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on 5/28/2021, four adult male rats sustained leg injuries beyond those described as expected in the protocol. Investigation revealed several instances of protocol noncompliance by the individual overseeing the experiment caused by a breakdown in communication within the lab. The vet staff was contacted, and the rats were euthanized. The incident occurred on an activity receiving PHS-funding.

Corrective and preventive measures included having the lab personnel stop performing the procedure until they were re-trained by the PI. The PI has re-trained the personnel and they have been observed running the procedure multiple times without incident. The committee also requested a checklist be created for lab personnel to complete when they perform visual checks of the animals during the procedure. The PI has also updated the IACUC protocol and internal lab training documentation. The IACUC Director will also follow up with the PI in a few weeks to make sure the procedures and trainings are running smoothly.

OLAW believes that the corrective and preventive measures by the University of Colorado - Boulder are consistent with the provisions of the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals for institutional self-monitoring and self-reporting. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

Brent C. Morse -S

Brent C. Morse, DVM
Director

Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

Digitally signed by Brent C. Morse

-S

Date: 2021.07.01 16:36:46 -04'00'

cc: IACUC contact



University of Colorado
Boulder

Jon Reuter, Assistant Vice Chancellor for
Research Integrity and Compliance
3100 Marine St, UCB 563, Office 25
Boulder, CO 80309

A3646

jon.reuter@colorado.edu

t 303 735-5809

June 21, 2021

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

Dr. Morse,
The University of Colorado Boulder, Assurance No. D16-00388, provides the report listed below.
Please note a preliminary report was called into 303-594-2921 on 6/4/2021 by (b) (6)

Protocol: 2611
Funds: NIH RMH050479G NIH RMH116353A

Species: Rat

On 5/28/2021 four adult male rats sustained leg injuries beyond those described as expected in their protocol during an experimental shock session. Investigation revealed several instances of protocol noncompliance by the individual overseeing the experiment. The OAR vet staff was contacted and the rats were euthanized.

This adverse event was unintentional and due to human error. There was a breakdown in communication between the PI, PhD mentor, and the novice lab member during training. Since the incident, the lab personnel were asked to stop performing the procedure until they were re-trained by the PI and the adverse event was discussed with the IACUC committee. The PI has re-trained the personnel and they have been observed running the procedure multiple times without incident by the PI. The committee would also like to have a checklist created for lab personnel to complete when they perform visual checks of the animals during the tail shock procedures. The PI has also updated the IACUC protocol and internal lab training documentation to more explicitly state the parameters for running the experiment and more clearly document the discrete levels of training personnel will undergo on the procedure. The IACUC Director will also follow up with the PI in a few weeks to make sure the procedures and trainings are running smoothly.

CU Boulder maintains its commitment to the health and welfare of animals used in research. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Christopher A. Lowry, PhD, IACUC Chair at christopher.lowry@colorado.edu or Althea R. Lantron, IACUC Director, at althea.lantron@colorado.edu.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
(b) (6)
412546504B0945A

Jon Reuter, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Research Integrity and Compliance

Cc:
Christopher A. Lowry, IACUC Chair
Althea R. Lantron, Director, IACUC Director
Sara Hashway, Director, Office of Animal Resources

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 7:01 AM
To: IACUC Office
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Reportable Incident

Thank you for this report. We will send a response soon.

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

From: IACUC Office <iacucoffice@colorado.edu>
Sent: Monday, June 21, 2021 1:27 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Jon D Reuter <Jon.Reuter@Colorado.EDU>; Sara Hashway <Sara.Hashway@colorado.edu>; Christopher Lowry <christopher.lowry@colorado.edu>; Althea Lantron <Althea.Lantron@Colorado.EDU>
Subject: Reportable Incident

Dear OLAW,

Please find attached the final report for an incident that we have found reportable.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

Be Boulder.



University of Colorado **Boulder**



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: BCM

Date: 6/9/2021

Time: Voicemail

Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: Univ. of CO - Boulder

Assurance number: A3646

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? ?

Funding component:

Was funding component contacted (if necessary):

What happened: Rats injured during an approved procedure

Species involved: Rat

Personnel involved: Researcher

Dates and times: ?

Animal deaths: ?

Projected plan and schedule for correction/prevention (if known):

IACUC investigating

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case #