



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 23, 2021

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3226-01 (OLAW Case 2S)

Dr. Elizabeth Boyd
VP for Research Administration
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
1101 Fairview Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109-1024

Dear Dr. Boyd,

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 Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (Fred Hutch) following up on an initial May 25, 2021 notification by telephone.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the Fred Hutch Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to: failure to adhere to institutional policies/procedures resulting in harm to animals. The final report states on May 14th, a Core Center of Excellence in Hematology (CCEH) staff member weaned five mice to a new cage. The next day Comparative Medicine staff found two mice on the floor and one in a live trap. On May 17th, a fourth mouse was found in a sharps disposal container. It is also stated a cage with a card listing five weaned mice was identified, but only one mouse was present in the cage. Therefore, it was assumed the loose mice originated from this cage. Per the report, the mice found on May 15th were returned to the cage and remained healthy. The mouse found in the sharps container was returned to the cage but was found dead on May 18th.

In response to the incident, the CCEH staff member was counseled on the importance of maintaining close attention to open cages when weaning mice. Also, CCEH staff will confirm the expected number of mice in each cage after closing the lid and prior to returning the cage to the rack. It is understood the IACUC determined the corrective and preventive action plan was sufficient.

It is noted this research is supported by PHS funds. Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center 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: 2021.06.23
12:37:46 -04'00'

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

cc: IACUC Contact



FRED HUTCH
Institutional Review Office

June 15, 2021

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

RE: Reportable Event

Animal Welfare Assurance Number:

D16-00142 (Legacy #A3226-01)

Name of Institution:

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

PHS Funding:

NIH/NIDDK U54 DK106829

Dear Dr. Morse:

This letter serves as follow-up to an initial verbal notification made by (b) (6) on May 25, 2021, regarding a reportable event.

The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (Fred Hutch) Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) reviewed the reportable event at the June 1, 2021 fully convened IACUC meeting. The report was submitted on May 18, 2021 and described an event in which four mice were found loose in an animal housing room.

On May 14, a Core Center of Excellence in Hematology (CCEH) staff member weaned five mice to a new cage. On May 15, Comparative Medicine staff found two mice on the floor and one in a live trap; a fourth mouse was found two days later in a sharps disposal container. A cage was identified with a cage card listing five weaned mice, but with only one mouse present in the cage. The loose mice are presumed to have originated from this cage and to have escaped during weaning. The three mice found on May 15 were replaced in the cage and are alive and healthy. The fourth mouse (found in the sharps container) was replaced in the cage on May 17 and was found dead on May 18, presumably due to dehydration and/or injuries sustained while loose in the room.

The CCEH staff member was counseled about the importance of maintaining close attention to open cages when weaning mice. As a preventive action, CCEH staff will confirm the expected number of mice in each cage after closing the lid and before returning the cage to the rack. The IACUC determined the corrective and preventive action plan was adequate, and no further action was required.

The Concern will be reported to the funding component, and no unallowable costs were charged during the noncompliant period (i.e., no charges made to the corresponding NIH/NSF grant, or appropriate adjustments will be made to the grant to remove those charges). Funding components may allow expenditure of NIH/NSF grant funds for maintenance and care of animals on a case-by-case basis.

If you have any suggestions for further improvements to our program, please do not hesitate to share them with us. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me at (b) (6) or (b) (6)

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Elizabeth Boyd, PhD
Vice President for Research Administration & Faculty Affairs
Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

cc:

(b) (6)

Bruce Busby, IACUC Chair
Gordon Roble, DVM, Attending Veterinarian
Principal Investigator
Office of General Counsel, Fred Hutch
Office of Sponsored Research, Fred Hutch

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, June 21, 2021 7:06 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: OLAW Reporting Letter_D16-00142 Legacy #A3226-01 Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

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

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2021 1:28 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Subject: OLAW Reporting Letter_D16-00142 Legacy #A3226-01 Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Dear Dr. Morse:

Attached please find the final report as follow-up to an initial verbal notification that was provided on May 25, 2021 regarding a reportable event.

If you have any questions, please feel free contact me. We would appreciate a confirmation via email that you have received the attached document.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

COVID-19 related FAQs: IRB [here](#) - Clinical Research Support [here](#).

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