



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

March 2, 2022

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

Dr. Frederick Applebaum  
Executive VP and Deputy Director  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
1101 Fairview Avenue North  
Seattle, WA 98109-1024

Dear Dr. Applebaum,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your letter dated February 11, 2022 reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Your letter supplements the information in the prompt telephone preliminary report on February 1, 2022. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on February 1, 2022, your institution was notified that a deceased mouse was found inside a live trap in an animal housing room during a routine daily check of live traps. It is presumed that the mouse escaped during a cage change. The associated protocol is PHS-supported.

The corrective and preventative actions included staff discussing the event at a department meeting, emphasizing the importance of keeping a continuous watch on open cages and checking for mice climbing on wire bars during change-outs. This meeting was also used as an opportunity to highlight the importance of daily live trap checks.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center to investigate this incident, provide corrective measures, and prevent recurrence. OLAW concurs that the incident warranted reporting. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

**Brent C. Morse -S** Digitally signed by Brent C. Morse -S  
Date: 2022.03.02 09:26:47 -05'00'

Brent C. Morse, DVM  
Director  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC contact



February 11, 2022

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**

<b>Animal Welfare Assurance Number:</b>	D16-00142 (Legacy #A3226-01)
<b>Name of Institution:</b>	Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
<b>PHS Funding:</b>	NIH/NCI F32 CA236317-01A NIH/NCI R01 CA255015-01 NIH/NCI R37CA241472-01

Dear Dr. Morse:

This letter serves as follow-up to an initial verbal notification made by (b) (6) on February 1, 2022, regarding a reportable event.

On February 1, 2022, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (Fred Hutch) Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) reviewed a reportable event submitted on January 31, 2022. The report described an event in which a deceased mouse was found inside a live trap in an animal housing room. The mouse was found by a Comparative Medicine (CM) husbandry technician during a routine daily check of live traps throughout the facility. The mouse was an approximately 4-week-old pup and appeared to have been dead for no longer than 24 hours. The Principal Investigator of the corresponding protocol was notified of the incident and lab staff reported that they had not opened the cage during the preceding week. Cage changes were performed by CM husbandry staff during the week, and it is presumed that the mouse escaped during a cage change.

The Committee reviewed the event at the 2/1/2022 fully convened IACUC meeting. The corrective and preventative actions included CM staff discussing the event at a department meeting, emphasizing the importance of keeping a continuous watch on open cages and checking for mice climbing on wire bars during change-outs. This meeting was also used as an opportunity to highlight the importance of daily live trap checks.

The IACUC determined the corrective and preventative action plan was adequate, and no further action was required. The IACUC acknowledged that while the event involved animals on a research protocol, the Comparative Medicine department is responsible for all corrective actions.

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 [fappelba@fredhutch.org](mailto:fappelba@fredhutch.org).

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Fred Appelbaum, MD  
Executive Vice President & Deputy Director  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

cc:

(b) (6)

A McGarry Houghton, IACUC Chair  
Gordon Roble, DVM, Attending Veterinarian  
Principal Investigator  
Fred Hutch Office of General Counsel

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

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 18, 2022 8:26 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: OLAW reporting letter\_ D16-00142-Legacy #A3226-01-Fred Hutchinson Research Center

Thank you for this report, (b) (6) We will send a response soon.

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

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 5:33 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** (b) (6)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] OLAW reporting letter\_ D16-00142-Legacy #A3226-01-Fred Hutchinson Research Center

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Dear Dr. Morse:

Attached please find the final report as follow-up to an initial verbal notification that was provided on February 1, 2022 regarding another reportable event.

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

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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## Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: BCM

Date: 2/2/2022

Time: voicemail

Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: Fred Hutchinson Cancer Rsch Cen

Assurance number: A3226

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? \_\_\_?\_\_\_

Funding component: \_\_\_\_\_

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

What happened?

One mouse found in trap in vivarium housing room. Escaped during cage changing by Vet Techs.

Species involved: mus musculus

Personnel involved: Vet Techs

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:

< 60 days

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # \_\_\_\_\_