



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

October 27, 2021

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3158-01 [OLAW Case 1Z]

Dr. Michael Zwick
Senior Vice President
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
33 Knightsbridge Road, 2nd Floor East, (b) (4)
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Dear Dr. Zwick,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges your October 6, 2021 letter, reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Rutgers University. Your letter supplements the information in the initial phone report on September 28, 2021. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on April 5, 2021 one rat with a tail injury was observed and a second rat with a similar injury in the same animal room was observed on April 12, 2021. The first rat was euthanized. The second rat expired while under anesthesia during an attempt to repair the injury. The same animal care technician was assigned to perform husbandry duties in that animal room on both of the days injured rats were observed. That individual was initially re-assigned to non-animal duties and is currently no longer employed by the university. These animals were supported by NIH funds.

Corrective and preventive measure included a routine refresher training session on animal health concerns and reporting health issues for all husbandry staff. The refresher training was already planned independent of this incident.

The prompt consideration of this matter by Rutgers University was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Similarly, the routine retraining of staff would be expected to prevent such incidents in the future. 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: 2021.10.27 15:48:57 -04'00'

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACLAM

Director

Division of Compliance Oversight

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Contact



Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
IACUC Administrative Office
675 Hoes Lane West, room 115
Piscataway, NJ 08854

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October 6, 2021

Brent Morse, DVM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Rockledge 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance Number D16-00098 (A3158-01)

Dear Dr. Morse,

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey hereby makes the final report for the following incident, reported to OLAW via telephone on September 28, 2021. One rat with a tail injury was observed on April 5, 2021 and a second rat with a similar injury in the same animal room was observed on April 12, 2021.

The following actions were taken in response to this incident:

- The first rat was euthanized. The second rat expired while under anesthesia during an attempt to repair the injury.
- A thorough investigation occurred. Although no one admitted responsibility for causing the injuries, the same Comparative Animal Resources (CMR) animal care technician was assigned to perform husbandry duties in that animal room on both of the days injured rats were observed; therefore, we are reasonably confident of the identity of the individual responsible for both tail injuries. That individual was initially re-assigned to non-animal duties and is currently no longer employed by the university.
- A routine refresher training session on animal health concerns and reporting health issues for all CMR staff was already planned independent of this incident but will help serve as a preventative measure against future incidents of this nature.
- At its regular meeting on May 19, 2021, the IACUC reviewed and discussed these incidents and unanimously voted to report this matter to OLAW. The IACUC also voted to accept the above noted corrective actions.

Please note that these animals were supported by NIH funds.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Michael E. Zwick, Ph.D.
Institutional Official
Senior Vice President for Research

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 7:19 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: final report for Rutgers Assurance D16-00098 (A3158-01)

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: Friday, October 22, 2021 4:09 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: final report for Rutgers Assurance D16-00098 (A3158-01)

Division of Compliance Oversight,

Attached is a final report for a reportable event under Assurance # D16-00098 (A3158-01).

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
(b) (6)

(b) (6)



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: BCM

Date: 9/28/2021

Time: 4:50

Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: Rutgers Univ

Assurance number: A31585

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? Yes

Funding component:

Was funding component contacted (if necessary):

What happened? Rat found with tail degloving injury. Second rat in same room found with same injury a week later.

Species involved: Rattus

Personnel involved: Possibly caretaker

Dates and times: ?

Animal deaths: yes, one euthanized and one died under anesthesia during treatment.

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

Removed caretaker from animal contact duties. Caretaker no longer employed by university.

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

< 60 days

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Case #