



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) 480-3377

July 18, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3083-01 [OLAW Case 3M]

Dr. Robert Rubin
President and Chief Executive Officer
Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute
2425 Ridgecrest Drive, SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108

Dear Dr. Rubin,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your April 4, 2022 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on March 22nd, a female breeding mouse was found hunched, lethargic with labored breathing, an empty water bottle, and dry bedding. No issues had been reported since a fresh water bottle was provided on March 18th. The animal was euthanized and a necropsy confirmed dehydration. The associated study is PHS funded.

The following corrective action plan was implemented following the incident:

1. The individuals who had worked with and/or observed the animal in the approximate four- day window were retrained on water bottle placement and water checks.
2. The incident was also addressed by Lovelace's Human Resources department for additional disciplinary action.

The prompt consideration of this matter by the Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Similarly, the actions taken to resolve the issue and prevent recurrence were appropriate. OLAW views instances of lack of basic living requirements such as food, water, and a proper cage environment with great concern. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no need 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: 2022.07.18 11:28:41
-04'00'

cc: IACUC contact

McCoy, Devora (NIH/OD) [E]

From: McCoy, Devora (NIH/OD) [E]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 11:40 AM
To: rwrubin@lovelacebiomedical.org
Cc: jbrower@lovelacebiomedical.org; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: OLAW Case A3083-3M
Attachments: A3083-3M.pdf

Good morning Dr. Rubin,

Attached please find Dr. Morse's final response to OLAW Case A3083-3M. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us by phone or by e-mail.

Best,
Devora

Devora McCoy, BS, MBA
Program Analyst
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
301-435-2390



A3083-3M
2425 Ridgecrest Drive SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108
voice 505.348.9400
fax 505.348.8567
www.Lovelacebiomedical.org

April 4, 2022

Assurance A3083-01

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

Dear Dr. Morse,

Lovelace recognizes our responsibility to directly and promptly report adverse events on PHS funded work. This letter is to inform your office of a recent incident involving a significant deviation from the Guide on a PHS funded project. A female breeding mouse was found hunched, lethargic with labored breathing, and with an empty water bottle. The prime contract number for this study is 75N95019D00012.

The incident was investigated by the IACUC investigative subcommittee and the following details were found. On 18Mar2022 all animals on the study were provided a fresh water bottle and clean bedding. On the dates 19Mar-21Mar2022 animals received twice-daily observations and water checks at which no abnormal findings were reported. Additionally, on 21Mar2022 a litter of pups was removed from this dam's cage and placed into their own cage pursuant to their weaning schedule. On 22Mar2022 animals were observed in the morning by husbandry staff with no abnormal observations found; however, approximately 2 hours later this mouse was reported to vet staff. Vet staff confirmed that the animal appeared to be dehydrated and recommended euthanasia, and found the water bottle to be empty. Necropsy also confirmed evidence of dehydration.

Following the clinical report, the water bottle was inspected for integrity and was found to be intact. There was no indication that the lid was compromised/leaking and the bedding in the cage was dry and relatively clean.

The following corrective action plan was implemented following the incident:

1. The individuals who had worked with and/or observed the animal in the approximate 4 day window were retrained by the area manager on 31Mar2022 on water bottle placement and water checks.
2. The incident was also addressed by Lovelace's Human Resources department for additional disciplinary action.

The corrective action plan has been reviewed and approved by the Attending Veterinarian. Lovelace is committed to protecting the welfare of animals. We appreciate any guidance provided by OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions or require more information feel free to contact the Attending Veterinarian, Rachel Cooper at (b) (6) or the IACUC Chair, Dr. Jeremy Brower at (b) (6).

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Dr. Robert W. Rubin, PhD
President and CEO
Institutional Official
Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 7:39 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Non-compliance Reporting

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: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 4:24 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Brower, Jeremy <jbrower@lovelacebiomedical.org>; (b) (6) rcooper
<rcooper@lovelacebiomedical.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Non-compliance Reporting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and are confident the content is safe.

Good afternoon Dr. Morse,

Attached to this email you will find a letter regarding a non-compliance that we are reporting to OLAW. Please let me know if you require any more information from us regarding this incident. Thank you for your attention to the matter and any guidance.

Warm regards,

(b) (6)