



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

December 14, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3272-01 [OLAW Case 2S]

Dr. Denis Wirtz
Vice Provost for Research
Johns Hopkins University
(b) (4) Garland Hall
3400 N. Charles St.
Baltimore, MD 21218

Dear Dr. Wirtz,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your November 30, 2022 letter reporting a serious deviation from the provisions of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* at Johns Hopkins University, following up on an initial telephone report on June 12, 2022. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that two mice died of dehydration. The incident occurred in a satellite facility and contributing factors included inadequate oversight by the Principal Investigator (PI) and staff turnover.

The corrective actions consisted of retraining all laboratory staff, creating a standard operating procedure for all users of the satellite facility outlining animal care and monitoring responsibilities, and counseling the PI and other users regarding their responsibility for adequate animal care and use.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to correct and prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the institution to comply with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair



November 30, 2022

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-6910

RE: Animal Welfare Assurance #A3272-01, OLAW Case 2S

Dear Dr. Wolff:

Please accept this letter as the final report on a finding of serious noncompliance with the Public Health Service (PHS) *Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*. In accordance with federal guidelines, the circumstances in question were described to you in a prompt report from Dr. Brendan Canning, Chair of the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) Animal Care and Use Committee (ACUC) on June 12, 2022 (OLAW Case #A3272-2S).

On Sunday May 1st animal care staff discovered a cage containing 2 dead mice in a satellite housing facility. The mice were to be used in studies of therapies targeting Rhet syndrome. This research had been described in a protocol that had been approved by the JHU ACUC and was funded by the NIH grant 5R01 NS113140.

Necropsy determined that the 2 mice had likely succumb to dehydration. No other animals in this satellite housing facility were injured. Responsibility for animal care at the satellite facility was shared amongst multiple investigators and research labs. Multiple ACUC Compliance Subcommittee meetings were held throughout the spring and summer and early fall. On October 20th the Compliance Subcommittee determined that because of staff turnover and inadequate PI oversight, the 2 animals in this cage had received an inadequate supply of water from the lab and care staff responsible for managing the satellite facility.

The Compliance Subcommittee voted unanimously that the circumstances represented serious noncompliance. Corrective actions included retraining of all lab staff and creation of an SOP for all users of the satellite facility. The SOP details expectations for daily care and monitoring of all animals in the facility whether or not the animals are assigned to the lab of the care staff involved, as well as environmental monitoring procedures and routine housekeeping. The Compliance Subcommittee also reinforced with the PI and other users of the facility their responsibility to animal care. A follow up meeting with satellite facility users confirmed implementation of these corrective actions. The full ACUC agreed unanimously with the findings of the Compliance Subcommittee and with the corrective actions implemented. The ACUC considers the matter closed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)



Denis Wirtz, Ph.D.
Vice Provost for Research

cc: AAALAC International

Brendan J. Canning, Ph.D., Chair, Johns Hopkins University Animal Care and Use Committee

Eric Hutchinson, D.V.M., DACLAM, Attending Veterinarian and Assistant Vice Provost for Animal Research and Resources, Johns Hopkins University

(b) (6)

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 8:03 AM
To: Brendan Canning
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Final reports

Good morning Dr. Canning,

Thank you for sending us these three final reports and we will send official responses soon.

Best,
Devora

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

From: Brendan Canning <bjc@jhmi.edu>
Sent: Friday, December 9, 2022 1:16 PM
To: Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E] <WolffA@OD.NIH.GOV>; Denis Wirtz <wirtz@jhu.edu>; Eric Hutchinson <ehutchi8@jhmi.edu>; (b) (6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Final reports

Dear Dr. Wolff,

Please find attached the final reports on cases 2R, 2S and 2U.

Thanks in advance for confirming receipt. Contact me directly if you have any questions.

Regards,

Brendan J. Canning, Ph.D.
Professor of Medicine
Chair, Johns Hopkins University Animal Care and Use Committee
Johns Hopkins Asthma and Allergy Center
5501 Hopkins Bayview Circle
Baltimore, Maryland 21224
(b) (6)
e-mail: bjc@jhmi.edu



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: (b) (6)

Date: 6/12/22

Time: 420

Name of Person reporting: Brandon Cammery

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #: (b) (6)

Email:

Name of Institution: Johns Hopkins U

Assurance number: A3272-2S

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? Yes

Funding component: _____

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____

What happened?

Mice died due to lack of water

Species involved: Mice

Personnel involved:

Dates and times:

Animal deaths:

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

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____