



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500 – MSC 6910
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982
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

DATE: September 29, 2022

TO: Nina F. Schor, M.D., Ph.D.
Deputy Director for Intramural Research, NIH

FROM: Director
Division of Compliance Oversight, OLAW

SUBJECT: Animal Welfare Investigation (ORS-DVR #40-22) - Animal Welfare Assurance
A4149-01 [Case 17Q]

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your August 10, 2022 memo regarding an adverse event within the animal care and use program at the Office of Research Services/Division of Veterinary Resources. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on July 12th, 2022, a female African Green NHP was sedated for semiannual physical exam. While under sedation, the veterinary technician discovered bleeding from a fresh laceration to the base of the tail. The veterinarian was notified and palpated a fracture. Immediate X-rays were performed and confirmed the tail fracture. The cage was checked thoroughly, and no defects were found. The veterinarian began treatment and managed the injury, and the tail is healing well. The cause of injury remains unknown.

Corrective and preventive actions: It was suggested to include more staffing to observe sedated animals to make sure they don't fall in a compromised way, having more staff available to monitor animals pre- and post-sedation and reminding staff to be more vigilant while working with NHP's with long tails such as African Greens. The facility staff will be providing closer monitoring when animals are being sedated as suggested.

The actions taken to resolve the issue and prevent recurrence were appropriate and accepted by OLAW. Although the cause of the injury was not determined, and may not have been the result of noncompliance, we appreciate your program's transparency in informing OLAW of this matter. We find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

Brent C. Morse -S

Digitally signed by Brent C.

Morse -S

Date: 2022.09.29 15:09:28 -04'00'

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACLAM

Director

Division of Compliance Oversight

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: Dr. Stephen Denny
Dr. Richard Wyatt
Dr. Joanne Smith, Chair, ORS ACUC



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

www.nih.gov

September 16, 2022

TO: Brent C. Morse, D.V.M.
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

FROM: Deputy Director for Intramural Research, NIH

SUBJECT: Animal Welfare Investigations - Assurance D16-00602 (DVR 40-22)

This correspondence conveys the results of an animal incident investigation by the NIH Office of Research Services Division of Veterinary Medicine (DVR) ACUC in accordance with Assurance D16-00602 and PHS Policy IV.F.3. The incident involved the identification of a wound on a nonhuman primate while it was anesthetized for an animal health monitoring procedure.

The event was first reported to the NIH Office of Animal Care and Use by the DVR ACUC Chair on July 14, 2022.

Please contact me or Dr. Stephen Denny, Director, Office of Animal Care and Use, if additional information or clarifications are required.

Nina F. Schor -S	Digitally signed by Nina F. Schor -S Date: 2022.09.16 17:45:56 -04'00'
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Nina F. Schor, M.D., Ph.D.

Attachment

cc: Dr. Wyatt
Dr. Denny
Dr. Smith



To: Nina F. Schor, M.D., Ph.D.
Deputy Director for Intramural Research, NIH

From: Joanne Smith
Chair, ORS Animal Care and Use Committee

Subject: NIH DVR Animal Incident Report

In accordance with Animal Welfare Assurance # D16-00602 and PHS Policy IV.F.3., the ORS ACUC provides this report of an incident that occurred involving the care and use of animals in biomedical research.

Incident Summary:

Date: July 12, 2022

Description: NHP Tail Base Injury associated with Sedation

This incident was reported to the ACUC Chair by the Facility Veterinarian on the day of occurrence. The Chair reported to OACU on July 14, 2022.

Subcommittee interviews and observations were conducted between 7/26 and 8/12 with the Attending Veterinarian, Facility Veterinarian, Clinical Veterinarian, Facility Manager, Lead Veterinary Technician, and involved technical staff.

On July 12th, 2022, a female African Green NHP was sedated for semiannual physical exam. While under sedation, the veterinary technician discovered bleeding from a fresh laceration to the base of the tail. The veterinarian was notified and palpated a fracture. Immediate X-rays were performed and confirmed the tail fracture. The PI, facility veterinarian, and contract managers were notified. The cage was checked thoroughly, and no defects were found. The veterinarian began treatment and managed the injury. The tail is healing well, and it has been determined that there are no potential impacts to the study. Possible causes of the injury were discussed; however, the cause of injury remains unknown.

The ACUC reviewed this incident at the August 16, 2022 full committee meeting.

Committee discussion included the fact that there was no pin-pointed cause. Discussion continued regarding OLAW Guidance for prompt reporting "Conditions that jeopardize the health or well-being of animals, including natural disasters, accidents, and mechanical failures, resulting in harm or death to animals." A motion was made to report this incident and a split vote occurred with 9 members voting reportable and 4 members voting non-reportable. We are reporting based on the majority vote.



Corrective Actions and Implementation Schedule:

Discussion began regarding corrective actions, and it was suggested to include more staffing to observe sedated animals to make sure they don't fall in a compromised way, having more staff available to monitor animals pre- and post-sedation and reminding staff to be more vigilant while working with NHP's with long tails such as African Greens. The facility staff will be providing closer monitoring when animals are being sedated as suggested.

The ORS ACUC feels these actions will prevent the occurrence of a similar incident in the future.

Sincerely,

Joanne M. Smith -S

Digitally signed by Joanne M.
Smith -S
Date: 2022.09.15 08:14:58 -04'00'

Chair, ORS Animal Care and Use Committee

McCoy, Devora (NIH/OD) [E]

From: Denny, Stephen (NIH/OD) [E]
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2022 8:14 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: D16-00602 NIH Animal Incident Report (DVR 40-22)
Attachments: D16-00602 NIH IO Animal Incident Memo (DVR 40-22).pdf; D16-00602 NIH ACUC Animal Incident Report (DVR 40-22).pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear OLAW/DCO,

The attached documents from the NIH Institutional Official and the NIH Office of Research Services-Division of Veterinary Medicine ACUC address an animal incident involving a wound identified on an anesthetized nonhuman primate undergoing an animal health monitoring procedure.

If you have any questions please contact me via email or at the phone number listed below. Thank you, Steve

STEPHEN DENNY, DVM, MS, DACLAM, DACVPM | Director, Office of Animal Care and Use | NIH Bethesda Campus, Building 31/Room B1C37 |
Phone: (301) 435-2188 | *NIH . . . Turning Discovery Into Health* |

McCoy, Devora (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2022 9:16 AM
To: Denny, Stephen (NIH/OD) [E]
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: D16-00602 NIH Animal Incident Report (DVR 40-22)

Good morning Dr. Denny,

Thank you for sending us this report and we will send an official response 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: Denny, Stephen (NIH/OD) [E] <stephen.denny@nih.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2022 8:14 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Subject: D16-00602 NIH Animal Incident Report (DVR 40-22)

Dear OLAW/DCO,

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If you have any questions please contact me via email or at the phone number listed below. Thank you, Steve

STEPHEN DENNY, DVM, MS, DACLAM, DACVPM | Director, Office of Animal Care and Use | NIH Bethesda Campus, Building 31/Room B1C37 |
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