



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

June 5, 2023

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#A3187-01 [OLAW Case 10L]

Dr. Bill Yates  
Vice Chancellor for Research Protections  
University of Pittsburgh  
3500 Fifth Avenue, (b) (4) Hieber Building  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dear Dr. Yates,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your May 23, 2023 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Pittsburgh. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on March 8, 2023, two cages of mice were identified that did not receive post-operative treatments as outlined in the relevant IACUC protocol. The investigator's research is supported by NIH grants.

The IACUC approved the corrective action plan submitted by the investigator for the incident, which included the following items:

1. All lab members were directed to re-review the IACUC protocols they are listed on.
2. All lab members were directed to review the University's surgical and analgesic requirements.
3. In a meeting on March 24, 2023, the lab manager gave a presentation on the University's requirements for animal analgesic use.
4. The lab manager will routinely monitor the performance of procedures on animals as well as animal records to ensure compliance with the protocol; continuing education will be provided to lab members as needed.
5. A protocol modification will be submitted to clarify the analgesic requirements for each surgical procedure.

A letter was sent from the IACUC to the investigator and their supervisor regarding these events.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate this incident 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: 2023.06.05 09:38:12 -04'00'

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

cc: IACUC contact



University of  
Pittsburgh

Office of  
Research Protections

A3187-10L

*Bill J. Yates, PhD  
Vice Chancellor for Research Protections  
Professor of Otolaryngology & Neuroscience &  
Clinical and Translational Science*

(b) (4) Hieber Building  
3500 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

(b) (6)

Email: [vcorp@pitt.edu](mailto:vcorp@pitt.edu)

May 23, 2023

Brent Morse, DVM, DACLAM  
NIH Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
Rockledge One, Suite 360  
6705 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7982  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Dear Dr. Morse:

As the Institutional Official responsible for the University of Pittsburgh's Animal Care and Use Program (Assurance number D16-00118), I am writing to advise your office of a reportable incident<sup>1</sup>.

During the IACUC's semi-annual animal facility inspection on March 8, 2023, two cages of mice were identified that did not receive post-operative treatments as outlined in the relevant IACUC protocol.

The IACUC approved the corrective action plan submitted by the investigator for the incident, which included the following items:

1. All lab members were directed to re-review the IACUC protocols they are listed on.
2. All lab members were directed to review the University's surgical and analgesic requirements.
3. In a meeting on March 24, 2023, the lab manager gave a presentation on the University's requirements for animal analgesic use.
4. The lab manager will routinely monitor the performance of procedures on animals as well as animal records to ensure compliance with the protocol; continuing education will be provided to lab members as needed.
5. A protocol modification will be submitted to clarify the analgesic requirements for each surgical procedure.

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<sup>1</sup> PHS Policy IV.B.7 and IV.C.1.b

Brent Morse, DVM, DACLAM  
May 23, 2023  
Page 2

The investigator's research is supported by the following NIH grants:

R01-NS043277-20	Liberation of Intracellular Zinc and Neuronal Cell Death
R01-NS048216-04	The Role of Na <sup>+</sup> /H <sup>+</sup> exchanger in Cerebral Ischemia
R01-NS110755-02	Astrocytes-Mediated Regulation of Wnt/b-Catenin Pathway in Ischemic Brain

The IACUC levied the following sanction:

- A letter was sent to the investigator and their supervisor regarding these events.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Bill J. Yates, PhD

**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Reportable Event Notices  
**Date:** Friday, May 26, 2023 1:18:25 PM

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Good afternoon (b) (6)

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

Best,  
Devora

Devora McCoy, BS, MBA ([pronunciation](#))  
Program Analyst  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health

Phone: 301-435-2390  
Email: [devora.mccoy@nih.gov](mailto:devora.mccoy@nih.gov)

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 23, 2023 2:57 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <[olawdco@od.nih.gov](mailto:olawdco@od.nih.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Reportable Event Notices

Please review the attached correspondence forwarded on behalf of Bill J. Yates, PhD, Vice Chancellor for Research Protections. Thank you.

(b) (6)

