



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 25, 2023

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3442-01 [OLAW Case 3J]

CR Matthew Hodgson, MA, MS, MJ, CHRC, CCRP  
Vice President, Research Compliance & Regulatory Affairs  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Roberts Center for Pediatric Research  
2716 South Street, (b) (4)  
Philadelphia, PA 19146

Dear Mr. Hodgson,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your October 24, 2023 letter reporting two incidents of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a cage of six weanling mice were found dead. It was determined that these mice were weaned too early at 14 days of age. The individual responsible for weaning was a new staff member that was recently added as support personnel to the IACUC protocols. These mice were assigned to an NIH supported activity.

Corrective and preventive actions: The research team implemented the use of colored clips to identify ages of litters and to consult with other research staff members or veterinary staff to assess size of pups if a research team member has concerns about weaning. The IACUC required retraining by the Department of Veterinary Resource's staff for the individual responsible for this incident.

Incident #2: Two cages with two mice each were found dead due to a flooded cage. A cage above these two cages was placed backwards on the rack, activating the lixit. These mice were assigned to an NIH supported activity.

Corrective and preventive actions: The animal facility manager provided retraining by reviewing proper cage placement and lixit function with animal facility care and research staff members. The Principal Investigator of this IACUC protocol personally reviewed best practices for double checking lixit function and cage orientation with research staff.

OLAW believes that the corrective measures put in place by Children's Hospital of Philadelphia are consistent with the provisions of the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals for institutional self-monitoring and self-reporting. For all future reports, please provide the approximate date of occurrence. OLAW appreciates being informed of these issues and finds no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

**Brent C. Morse -S**

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

Digitally signed by Brent C.

Morse -S

Date: 2023.10.27 14:47:43 -04'00'

cc: IACUC contact

A3442-3J

**Ware, Teagan (NIH/OD) [E]**

---

**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 2:06 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Hodgson, Matthew; Eisenlohr, Laurence C; Cain, Charlette; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Assurance D16-00280 A3442-01\_- Report of Noncompliance

Good afternoon (b) (6)

Thank you for sending this report, assigned OLAW case A3442-3J. We will send an official response soon.

Best,  
Teagan

Teagan Ware, MS, PMP  
Animal Welfare Program Analyst  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health

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

**Disclaimer:** Please note that this message and any of its attachments are intended for the named recipient(s) only and may contain confidential, protected, or privileged information that should not be distributed to unauthorized individuals. If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender.

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2023 1:44 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** Hodgson, Matthew <HODGSONM@chop.edu>; Eisenlohr, Laurence C <EISENLOHRL@chop.edu>; Cain, Charlette <CAINC1@chop.edu>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Assurance D16-00280 A3442-01\_- Report of Noncompliance

Dear OLAW,

Attached to this email please find a report of noncompliance with the PHS Policy. We look forward to your review of this matter.

Thank you,

(b) (6)



Matthew Hodgson  
Vice President, Research Compliance & Regulatory Affairs  
Roberts Center for Pediatric Research, (b) (4)  
2716 South Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19146  
(b) (6)

October 24, 2023

Brent Morse, DVM  
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW)  
National Institutes of Health  
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Dear Dr. Morse:

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), in accordance with Assurance D16-00280 (A3442-01) and PHS Policy IV.F.3., submits these reports of noncompliance:

1. A cage of six weanling mice were found dead. It was determined that these mice were weaned too early at 14 days of age. The individual responsible for weaning was a new staff member that was recently added as support personnel to the IACUC protocols. These mice were assigned to CHOP IACUC protocol 22-000932 *Mouse Breeding* (NIH funded, 5R01CA259635-02). The research team implemented the use of colored clips to identify ages of litters and to consult with other research staff members or veterinary staff to assess size of pups if a research team member has concerns about weaning.

This incident was discussed at the regularly scheduled monthly IACUC meeting on 9/11/2023. The IACUC voted to: accept the research team's corrective and preventative action plan, require retraining by the Department of Veterinary Resource's staff for the individual responsible for this incident, and to report this incident to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), with a copy to AAALAC International.

2. Two cages with two mice each were found dead due to a flooded cage. A cage above these two cages was placed backwards on the rack, activating the lixit. The flow of water had flooded these two cages. These mice were assigned to CHOP IACUC protocol 21-001418 *Functions for non-traditional IL-15-responsive cells in pregnancy* (NIH funded, 5K08AI151265-03). The animal facility manager provided retraining by reviewing proper cage placement and lixit function with animal facility care and research staff members. The Principal Investigator of this IACUC protocol personally reviewed best practices for double checking lixit function and cage orientation with research staff.

This incident was discussed at the regularly scheduled monthly IACUC meeting on 10/9/2023. The IACUC voted to: accept the research team's corrective action plan and to report this incident to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW), with a copy to AAALAC International.



Children's Hospital  
of Philadelphia

Research Compliance & Regulatory Affairs

Brent Morse, DVM  
October 24, 2023  
Page 2

CHOP is committed to quality animal care. We believe that these steps are appropriate to address the noncompliance issue that was identified. However, if you would like us to take any additional measures or desire additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me, our IACUC Chair (Laurence C. Eisenlohr, VMD, PhD), or the Attending Veterinarian (Charlette Cain, DVM, MS, DACLAM).

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

CR Matthew Hodgson, MA, MS, MJ, CHRC, CCRP - Institutional Official, Vice President,  
Research Compliance & Regulatory Affairs

cc: AAALAC  
Director of the Office of IACUC Administration  
Charlette Cain DVM, MS, DACLAM – Attending Veterinarian and Senior Director, DVR  
Laurence C. Eisenlohr, VMD, PhD-IACUC Chair