



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) 402-7065

January 29, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3125-01 (OLAW Case S]

Dr. Maria T. Zuber
Vice President for Research
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Ave., Building (b) (4)
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Dr. Zuber

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 16, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, following up on an initial telephone report on December 11, 2018. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that a post-doctoral fellow performed an unapproved surgery on an anesthetized mouse. Brain wave activity was also recorded.

The corrective action consisted of euthanizing the mouse and suspending the fellow's animal use privileges. The fellow was retrained, the animal use privileges were restored, and the Principal Investigator and fellow were counseled not to use the data acquired from the unapproved activity.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate, correct, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. We appreciate having been informed about this matter and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair



MIT BUILDING
16-408

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
WHITEHEAD INSTITUTE FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH
COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL CARE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139-4307

TELEPHONE
(617) 253-9436
FAX
(617) 258-8257

Date: 01/16/19

To: Axel Wolff, DVM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Rockledge 1, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892

From: Dr. Maria T. Zuber, Institutional Official, Vice President for Research at MIT

cc: Dr. James G Fox, Professor and Director of the Division of Comparative
Medicine (DCM) / Attending Veterinarian and Committee on Animal Care
(CAC) Veterinarian

(b) (6)

AAALAC, International

Re: Protocol noncompliance under PHS Assurance A3125-01

Dear Dr. Wolff,

Dr. Fox made a preliminary report concerning this protocol noncompliance to you on Monday 12/10/2018. The incident was investigated by the DCM Director/AV, the CAC Chair, the DCM Assistant Director and Chief of Clinical Resources. The CAC discussed this issue at a convened meeting on 01/10/19 and endorsed corrective actions (below). The experimental use of the affected mice was supported by NIH funding under 000340-NIH 1R01MH1-064797-01.

Dr. Gloria Choi, the PI, had been informed that one of her postdoctoral fellows had conducted an experiment on 12/7/18 that was not approved on their animal protocol. On that same day, Dr. Gloria Choi self-reported to (b) (6) and the CAC Office a noncompliance under her protocol 0516-029-19. These studies center on the mechanisms of the anatomical framework that produces learned behaviors from piriform representations. The postdoc wanted to determine if a particular area of the brain was being stimulated by movement of the skin or movement of the muscles. To explore these possibilities, he removed some skin on the forearm of a mouse while under isoflurane anesthesia and physically moved the arm while recording brain activity. The mouse was

euthanized immediately after the procedure. The procedure from incision to euthanasia was completed in 5 minutes. Dr. Choi immediately instructed the postdoc not to do any animal experiments until further notice and emailed the aforementioned parties.

The CAC Chair, the DCM Director/ AV, and the DCM Assistant Director and Chief of Clinical Resources met with Dr. Choi and the postdoc on Monday 12/10/18. The seriousness of off-protocol experiments was discussed and the lab was informed that data from this experiment are not to be published, presented or used in a grant application. Those present agreed that the postdoc would continue to be disallowed to perform animal studies until further notice and that additional disciplinary action would be discussed at the next convened CAC meeting.

At the 01/10/19 convened CAC meeting, a summary of the noncompliance was presented and the Committee decided that the postdoc would be required to recomplete the DCM-sponsored introductory and surgical training courses. The Committee agreed that required retraining in addition to his inability to work with animals over the past month were sufficient disciplinary actions imposed by the CAC. The postdoc will be allowed to perform experiments with animals again once retraining is completed. The CAC considers the issue resolved.

We trust that OLAW will find our response to this protocol noncompliance adequate. Please inform Drs. Fox, (b) (6) or me if you need further clarification.

Regards.

(b) (6)

Maria T. Zuber

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Thursday, January 24, 2019 1:56 PM
To: (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD); Maria Zuber
Cc: (b) (6) James G Fox; (b) (6) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Noncompliance under PHS Policy, Assurance A3125-01

Thank you for providing this final report. Doctor Wolff will send an official response soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

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

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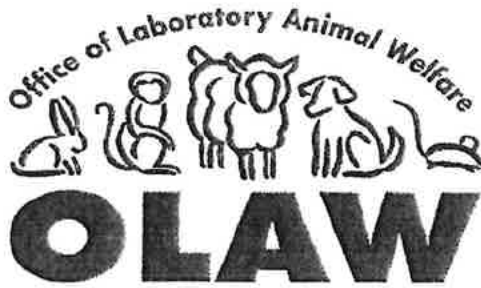
From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, January 24, 2019 1:40 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>; Maria Zuber <zuber@mit.edu>
Cc: (b) (6) James G Fox <jgfox@mit.edu>; (b) (6) (b) (6)
(b) (6) accredit@aaalac.org; (b) (6)
Subject: Noncompliance under PHS Policy, Assurance A3125-01

To Whom it May Concern,

Please find attached a memo signed by our IO, Dr. Maria T Zuber, regarding an incident which occurred at MIT (PHS Assurance A3125-01, AAALAC until 000191) on 12/7/18, as preliminarily reported to Dr. Axel Wolff by Dr. James Fox on 12/10/18.

Thanks,
(b) (6)

(b) (6)



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: aw

Date: 12/11/18

Time: 9:30

Name of Person reporting: Jim Fox

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: MIT

Assurance number: A3125

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? yes

Funding component: _____

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _____

What happened?

Surgery done on mouse not on protocol
Student did the work

Species involved: mouse

Personnel involved:

Dates and times:

Animal deaths:

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

Suspend animal use privileges

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _____