



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

April 16, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3431-01 [OLAW Case 8Q]

Dr. Lisa Muto
Executive Dean for Administration
Harvard Medical School
25 Shattuck Street, Gordon Hall – (b) (4)
Boston, MA 02115

Dear Dr. Muto,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your letter dated April 9, 2019 regarding a reportable incident at your institution. This is a final report that was not preceded by a preliminary report to this office.

According to the information provided, our office understands that two frogs were found dead and several others required euthanasia to a disrupted water change schedule. The disruption occurred after a necessary repair to a canister filter. The delay was exacerbated by a small leak discovered after the repair, which necessitated temporary bypass of the system's heat exchange unit. Institutional veterinarians assessed the issues and believe the disruption allowed proliferation of a pathogen already present in the water, resulting in widespread infection and sepsis. These animals were part of PHS funded projects.

Corrective measures include installation of a back up source of reverse osmosis water to prevent future water change disruptions.

The committee reviewed the corrective measure and considers the issue resolved.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been taken to prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by your institution to comply with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. We appreciate having been informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

For future reports, please remember to include dates of occurrence when describing the incident and if possible, please include the exact number of animals affected.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Nicolette Petervary, VMD, DACAW
Veterinary Medical Officer
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Contact



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

LISA M. MUTO, Ph.D.
EXECUTIVE DEAN FOR ADMINISTRATION
HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
25 SHATTUCK STREET, SUITE 408
BOSTON, MA 02115

New case

A3431-8Q

April 9, 2019

Brent Morse, DVM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Rockledge 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

FINAL REPORT

RE: Non-Compliance Report: Assurance: **A3431-01**
Harvard Medical Area Standing Committee on Animals (HMA IACUC)
Species: frog Grant: GM080676, HL098316

Dear Dr. Morse,

This letter serves as a final report on a recent adverse event that has not been preliminarily reported to OLAW by the Harvard Medical Area Standing Committee on Animals (HMA IACUC).

In late February, an adverse event occurred in an aquatics satellite. Two frogs were found dead and several others had to be euthanized when the schedule for changing the frog water was disrupted after a necessary repair was made to the frog water canister filter. The event was exacerbated when the heat exchange unit was temporarily bypassed after a small leak was discovered following the canister work. The veterinarians and satellite animal care staff believe the disrupted water schedule change enabled an already present pathogen to proliferate enough to cause a wide spread infection that lead to sepsis.

In response to this incident, the laboratory is going to install a back-up method for obtaining RO water for this satellite. This back-up method will allow the satellite to draw building RODI water into the frog water holding tank in an event the RO system is not working.

The Committee is satisfied with the corrective action mentioned above and considers this incident to be resolved. Please let us know if any additional information is required at this time.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Lisa M. Muto, PhD
Executive Dean for Administration
HMA Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee: Institutional Official

CC: **Gerald B. Pier, PhD**
Chairman, Harvard Medical Area Standing Committee on Animals

Brian F. Corning, DVM, DACLAM

Director of the Harvard Center for Comparative Medicine, Harvard Medical School: Attending Veterinarian

Arlene Santos-Díaz, MS

Director, Office of the IACUC, Harvard Medical School

(b) (6)



Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2019 8:23 AM
To: HMS-IACUC; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Final Report

Thank you for providing this report. We 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: HMS-IACUC [mailto:iacuc@hms.harvard.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2019 12:59 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Subject: Final Report