



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

May 15, 2019

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

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 May 6, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Harvard Medical School. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on March 18th a lab member requested that husbandry staff euthanize a cage of mice. The animal care technician found that there were approximately 25 mice in the cage and there was no food. The mice were then euthanized and there was no apparent harm to the animals. It was stated that this animal activity was funded by the PHS.

Corrective and preventive actions included the lab member being retrained by veterinary staff including proper euthanasia procedures as well as euthanasia chamber and cage housing density guidelines. The PI also spoke to the lab member as well as the entire laboratory about this incident.

OLAW appreciates the consideration of this matter by Harvard Medical School, which was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate the incident and to prevent recurrence. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Contact



# HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

43431-85

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

May 6, 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: mouse Grant: 2R01NS081297-06, 5R01MH071679-14

Dear Dr. Morse,

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

On March 18, 2019, an animal care technician discovered a cage of mice that a lab member requested husbandry staff euthanize that was severely overcrowded. There were approximately 25 mice in the cage. At the time the mice were found, there was no food in the cage. The mice were euthanized appropriately by the animal care technician and there was no apparent harm to the mice as a result of this incident.

In response to this incident, the lab member involved underwent retraining with veterinary staff. This training included proper euthanasia procedures as well as euthanasia chamber and cage housing density guidelines. The PI also spoke to the lab member involved as well as the entire laboratory about this incident.

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-Diaz, MS***

Director, Office of the IACUC, Harvard Medical School

***Jen Ryan, JD***

Executive Director, Office of Academic and Research Integrity, Harvard Medical School

**Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 07, 2019 8:58 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](mailto:iacuc@hms.harvard.edu)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 07, 2019 8:19 AM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <[olawdco@od.nih.gov](mailto:olawdco@od.nih.gov)>  
**Subject:** Final Report