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February 9, 2018

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DAACLAM  
Acting 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

Re: Final Report on USDA Finding for D16-00136

Dr. Morse,

On January 16, 2018, our animal care facilities were inspected by a Veterinary Medical Officer (VMO) from the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The inspector had found two chinchillas in separate cages in need of medical attention and contacted the Attending Veterinarian. One animal had discharge from the left eye and the second animal showed evidence of wounds from its cage mates. Medical attention was immediately provided and the wounded animal was transferred to single housing to continue treatment. The VMO provided an inspection report which indicated a direct finding for Attending Veterinarian and Adequate Veterinary Care.

The two chinchillas had arrived at the facility 4 days prior to the inspection. The animals were transported in individual cages. When they arrived, the animals were transferred to social housing with three animals per cage. Animal care staff had performed daily cage checks but it is clear that the wounds to the second animal were missed.

#### **Corrective Action**

The veterinary team immediately provided medical assessments and treatments as necessary. The clinical veterinarian and veterinary technician provided hands-on refresher training to all vivarium staff to ensure that morning health checks are thorough so that any future illnesses or injuries are detected promptly.

#### **Review by the IACUC**

The IACUC reviewed the information at a convened meeting on January 25, 2018. The IACUC was satisfied that the actions taken are appropriate. The IACUC requested a report of training progress at the next convened meeting on February 22, 2018.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Karen Kibler, PhD  
Chair, IACUC  
Assistant Research Professor

(b) (6)

[Karen.Kibler@asu.edu](mailto:Karen.Kibler@asu.edu)

(b) (6)

Tamara Deuser, MBA, PMP  
Institutional Official  
Associate Vice President

(b) (6)

[Tamara.Deuser@asu.edu](mailto:Tamara.Deuser@asu.edu)

**Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 09, 2018 11:55 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Final Report for D16-00136

Thank you for this report. We will send a response soon.

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.  
Deputy Director, OLAW

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**From:** (b) (6) [mailto:(b) (6)@asu.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 09, 2018 11:10 AM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** Tamara Deuser <Tamara.Deuser@asu.edu>; Karen Kibler <Karen.Kibler@asu.edu>; (b) (6)  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** Final Report for D16-00136

Dr. Morse,  
Attached is the final report regarding our USDA inspection finding.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

(b) (6)  
[REDACTED]

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Prelim.

A3217-X

### Inspection Report

Arizona State University  
P. O. Box 2204  
Tempe, AZ 85287

Customer ID: 1043  
Certificate: 86-R-0002  
Site: 001

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL CARE & TECHNOLOGIES

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION  
Date: 16-JAN-2018

**2.33(b)(2) DIRECT**

**ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE.**

\*\*\*The facility did not use appropriate means to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries of two chinchillas with medical issues.

An 18 month old male chinchilla, with no ear ID in cage 24 housed with 2 other chinchillas, was squinting his left eye. There was a clear dried discharge/substance around the left eye. Additionally, under the chin, there was a hairless area that was approximately 1 centimeter in diameter. The visible skin was pink/red in color.

Cage 45 had a large amount of hair debris in it. When examining the three chinchilla's house therein, one chinchilla appeared to be quiet in demeanor and unthrifty while sitting on top of its plastic shelter. That 18 month old, male, chinchilla, with no ear ID, had a large area of hairloss on his back. The hairless area, approximately 12 cm in length and 2-3 cm in width, was along his entire back. The skin beneath the outer edges of the hairless area was pink. Towards the middle of the hairless area, the skin was dark red in color and inflamed. In the center of the red skin, the skin was dry and scabs had formed. The right ear had damage to the tip and two puncture wounds in the center of the ear. There was dry blood around the base of the left ear, right ear, and at the base of the nose. This chinchilla was immediately placed in a separate cage and the attending veterinarian was called.

The facility received these chinchillas 5 days ago. They were transported individually, and upon arrival they were group housed three to a cage by the facility. Animals housed in the same primary enclosure must be compatible and should not be housed with other animals that interfere with their health or cause them discomfort. Facility staff informed the VMO that these animals' conditions had not been noticed by facility staff. The facility was unable to provide any records indicating that these particular conditions had been treated medically by the facility.

Daily observation of all animals is critical to ensuring that conditions that can adversely affect health and well-being are recognized in a timely manner. Additionally, when observed, problems relating to animal health or behavior must be conveyed to the attending veterinarian so that appropriate methods can be employed to ensure adequate

Prepared By:

(b) (6)

SISMOUR NAOMI, D.V.M. USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:  
17-JAN-2018

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6121

Received By:

(b) (6)

Title: HAND DELIVERED

Date:  
17-JAN-2018

Obtained by Rise for Animals. Uploaded 07/07/2020



### Inspection Report

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care. Injuries and diseases that are not treated properly (as directed by a veterinarian) may be painful and can lead to prolonged suffering, infection, and other veterinary care health problems. The facility must use appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries.

After the inspection, the facility provided veterinary care for both chinchillas, addressing the issues cited above.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the facility representatives.

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**Prepared By:**

SISMOUR NAOMI, D.V.M.      USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

**Title:** VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6121

**Date:**  
17-JAN-2018

**Received By:** (b) (6)

**Title:** HAND DELIVERED

**Date:**  
17-JAN-2018

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

**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 23, 2018 9:03 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Cc:** Tamara Deuser; Karen Kibler; (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Preliminary Report for D16-00136

Correction, we will open a case file and await further information.

Regards, Brent Morse

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

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**From:** (b) (6) [mailto:(b) (6)@asu.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 19, 2018 5:17 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** Tamara Deuser <Tamara.Deuser@asu.edu>; Karen Kibler <Karen.Kibler@asu.edu>; (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Preliminary Report for D16-00136

Good afternoon,  
On behalf of the ASU IACUC, I am notifying OLAW that our USDA inspection report indicates a finding related to animal welfare. The situation was immediately addressed by the Attending Veterinarian and the animals referenced are receiving medical treatment under his direction.

The IACUC will be reviewing the USDA report on January 25<sup>th</sup>, along with corrective actions that were immediately implemented, to determine if any additional actions are necessary. Once the IACUC has made their determination, we will submit a full report outlining their determination and the actions taken.

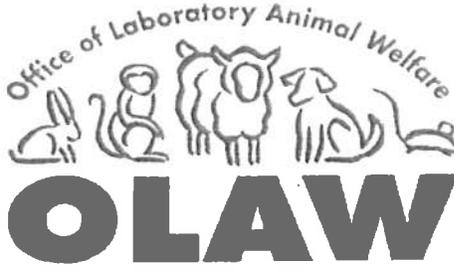
Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

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### Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: 10:30

Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)  
Telephone #: (b) (6)  
Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Institution: Arizona State University  
Assurance number: 016-00135

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? No  
Funding component: \_\_\_\_\_  
Was funding component contacted (if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

What happened?  
*Inadequate animal husbandry and/or veterinary care which resulted in 2 chincilla with fur loss and canted eyes and 2nd chincilla with wounds due to aggression with cage mate*

Species involved: 2  
Personnel involved:  
Dates and times:  
Animal deaths:

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

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

OFFICE USE ONLY  
Case # \_\_\_\_\_