



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

November 4, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3291-01 [OLAW Case 3H]

Mr. Joshua Murphy
Chief Legal Officer
Mayo Foundation
200 First Street, S.W.
Rochester, MN 55905

Dear Mr. Murphy,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your July 23, 2019 letter regarding a serious deviation from the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*. According to the information supplied, OLAW understands that a shelf collapse led to the death of approximately 380 zebrafish larvae (20-60 days post fertilization). Shelves had been used without incident for the larvae tanks since 2016, but the collapse occurred after recent shelf reconfiguration following installation of a new sink. The larvae were on an approved protocol that was funded by the NIH.

Corrective actions included acquisition of additional counterspace to place the tanks on instead of housing the larvae in tanks on a shelf.

OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to address this incident. We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Jane Na, DVM
Veterinary Medical Officer, OLAW
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair



A3291-3H

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

200 First Street SW
Rochester, MN 55905
(b) (6)

July 23, 2019

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817

Dear Dr. Wolff:

The Mayo Clinic, in accordance with Assurance number D16-00187 (A3291-01) and PHS Policy IV.F.3 provides this report of a serious deviation from the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* regarding an incident in which equipment failure caused zebrafish larvae to die or to be euthanized. The larvae were on an approved protocol that is funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute /HL140411.

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee discussed a report of a shelf collapse on which 8 static mouse cages of zebrafish larvae were maintained. The cages were each ½ full of water. As a result of the collapse, 6 cages fell into the sinks below and 2 cages fell onto the floor. The 8 cages contained approximately 400 larvae of various genotypes and stages of development (20-60 days post fertilization/dpf). The only larvae that could be rescued were some of the 60 dpf Casper genotype (20 of 40 larvae). The animals on the floor died. The majority of the other larvae went into 2 of the 3 sinks and could be seen in the clear plastic sink traps. Due to the location of the larvae in the sink traps, a two-step euthanasia process could not be followed. Therefore, bleach was poured into the sinks to euthanize the larvae in the traps to avoid releasing them into the local environment.

The Department of Comparative Medicine (DCM) facility veterinarian investigation notes that prior to this incident, contractors were on site to place a new sink in the countertop and to reconfigure the shelving over the countertop. DCM staff began placing items back in the room after the construction was completed and it was after this point that the shelving collapsed. The DCM facility veterinarian indicated that embryo/larval tanks have been stored without incident on the shelves over the countertop since the room was put in service in mid-2016. Additional countertop space has been created to allow the embryo/larvae tanks to be stored on the countertop from now on.

IACUC notes this incident was the result of equipment failure and securing additional countertop space to place the tanks on will prevent this from happening in the future. We regret this incident in our animal care program. Please feel free to contact the (b) (6) if any additional concerns remain.

Respectfully,

DocuSigned by:

(b) (6)

Joshua B. Murphy

Mayo Clinic
Institutional Official and Corporate Secretary

cc: Hirohito Kita, M.D., Chair, IACUC

(b) (6)

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 4:26 PM
To: IACUC; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: Kita, Hirohito, M.D.; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Report from Mayo Clinic (D16-00187)

Thank you for 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: IACUC [mailto:iacuc@mayo.edu]
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 3:05 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Kita, Hirohito, M.D. <kita.hirohito@mayo.edu>; (b) (6)
(b) (6)
Subject: Report from Mayo Clinic (D16-00187)

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached report from Mayo Clinic's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) (D16-00187). Thank you.

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) | Administrative Services - Research | (b) (6)
(b) (6) | Fax: (b) (6) | iacuc@mayo.edu
Mayo Clinic | 200 First Street SW | Rochester, MN 55905 | www.mayoclinic.org