



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 30, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#A3226-01 (OLAW Case 2G)

Dr. Gary Gilliland  
President and Director  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
1101 Fairview Avenue North  
Seattle, WA 98109-1024

Dear Dr. Gilliland,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your letter dated January 16, 2019 reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Your letter supplements the information provided in a phone call to this office on December 12, 2018. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on December 5, 2018 a single, live mouse was found in a garbage can in a rodent housing room. It was determined that a research staff member had been sorting mice in that room on December 3, 2018. The mouse apparently jumped from an open cage and then into the garbage can. The mouse was subsequently euthanized. The associated study was not PHS-funded.

Corrective actions included the PI stating that no more than two rodent cages would be handled by laboratory personnel at a time and that multiple cages will not be open at the same time. In addition, several procedures will be implemented to assure that mice are properly accounted for during such a procedure. The IACUC approved of the PI's actions. A CM veterinarian will speak in person to the PI and the research staff member.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center to investigate this incident, provide corrective measures, and prevent recurrence. OLAW concurs that the incident warranted reporting. 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



**FRED HUTCH**  
Institutional Review Office

D. Gary Gilliland, MD, PhD  
**President and Director**  
PO Box 19024; D1-060  
Seattle, WA 98109-1024  
Tel: 206-667-6600  
Email: [gary@fredhutch.org](mailto:gary@fredhutch.org)

January 16, 2019

Brent Morse, DVM  
Acting Director, Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
RKL1, Suite 360, MSC 7982  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

RE: Reportable Event

**Animal Welfare Assurance Number:**  
**Name of Institution:**  
**Funding:**

**D16-00142 (Legacy #A3226-01)**  
**Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center**  
**Department of Defense 221519**

Dear Dr. Morse:

This letter serves as follow-up to an initial verbal notification made by Karen Hansen, Director of the Institutional Review office (IRO), on December 12, 2018 regarding a reportable event.

On December 5, 2018, a Comparative Medicine (CM) staff member entered a rodent housing room and discovered a single live mouse in a garbage can. The CM staff member identified the mouse and contacted the research team responsible for the mice being housed in that room. A research staff member indicated he had been working with mice in that room on Monday, December 3, 2018, but was unaware that a mouse was missing. The research staff member had been sorting several cages of mice that day (9 cages in total). It was noted that the cage from which the mouse escaped had been left on a cart near a garbage can. The cage lid had not been sealed while the staff member was checking ear tag numbers and sorting mice for desired genotypes. It was assumed that the mouse was able to jump out of the cage, walk along the cart, then jump into the garbage can. While garbage cans are lidded, often when someone is working in a room the lid is ajar to allow for disposal of waste.

While the mouse did not have known access to food or water for approximately 48 hours, the mouse was found in good condition. It was noted by CM staff that a water bottle and other moist items were in the garbage bag, which could explain why the mouse was able to stay hydrated. The mouse was euthanized at the request of the Principal Investigator on December 5, 2018 due to risk of unwanted pathogen exposure/contamination.

The Principal Investigator submitted a reportable event form to the Institutional Review Office (IRO) dated December 5, 2018. The Principal Investigator confirmed that starting immediately, all laboratory personnel would handle no more than two rodent cages at a time; not have multiple cages left open; ensure all mice brought into a procedure room are accounted for on the way in and out of a procedure room and once again before racking; and for mice being euthanized, ear tags will be kept and cross referenced against the list detailing which mice were marked for euthanasia that day.

At the convened meeting on January 8, 2019, the IACUC determined that adequate corrective action measures have been taken by the Principal Investigator and that no further action is required at this time. The IACUC noted that a CM Veterinarian will also be scheduling a meeting to discuss the event in person with the Principal Investigator and research staff member.

If you have any suggestions for further improvements to our program, please do not hesitate to share them with us. Thank you for your time in reviewing this correspondence. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me at (b) (6)

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

D. Gary Gilliland, MD, PhD  
President and Director  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

cc: Karen Hansen, Director, Institutional Review Office  
George Georges, MD, IACUC Chair  
Rajesh Uthamanthil, DVM, Attending Veterinarian  
(b) (6)  
VP, General Counsel

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

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 1:15 PM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: OLAW Reporting Letter\_D16-00142-legacy #A3226-01 Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Thank you for this report, (b) (6) We will send a response soon.

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

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 18, 2019 11:49 AM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Subject:** OLAW Reporting Letter\_D16-00142-legacy #A3226-01 Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Dear Dr. Morse:

Attached please find the final report as follow-up to an initial verbal notification made by Karen Hansen on December 12, 2018 regarding a reportable event.

If you have any questions please contact:

Karen Hansen  
Director, Institutional Review Office  
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center  
Phone: (b) (6)  
Email: [khansen@fredhutch.org](mailto:khansen@fredhutch.org)

We would appreciate a confirmation via email that you have received the attached document.

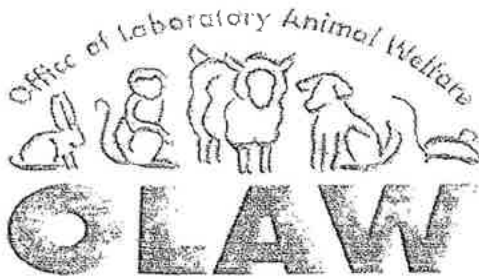
Sincerely,

(b) (6)



[fredhutch.org](http://fredhutch.org)

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## Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: *MSM*Date: *12/13/18*Time: *Voicemail from 12/12/18*Name of Person reporting: *Karen Hanson*Telephone #: *(b) (6)*

Fax #:

Email:

Name of Institution: *Fred Hutchinson Cancer Resch. Cen.*Assurance number: *A3226*Did incident involve PHS funded activity? *?*

Funding component: \_\_\_\_\_

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

What happened? *Mouse found in trash can. In can 24-48 hrs. Mouse O.K. when found*Species involved: *Mouse*

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 # \_\_\_\_\_