



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

FOR US POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERY:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7982
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-7982
Home Page: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/olaw.htm>

FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 402-7065

March 28, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3292-01 [OLAW Case 1W]

Dr. Mark B. Taubman, M.D.
Dean, School of Medicine
University Vice President for Health Sciences
University of Rochester
601 Elmwood Avenue, Box 706
Rochester, NY 14642

Dear Dr. Taubman,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your March 11, 2018 letter reporting a serious deviation from the provisions of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* at the University of Rochester. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that four USDA-regulated rodents had been placed in temporary housing during cleaning of their home cages, were left in the temporary cages for two days, and were subsequently found without food.

The immediate action taken upon discovery consisted of feeding the animals. The Attending Veterinarian was contacted on a following day, examined the rodents, and found them to be in good health. The corrective actions consisted of the Principal Investigator hiring a new laboratory member to oversee the animal colonies, removing the individual responsible from animal activities, and implementing a daily animal check of all temporary housing. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) directed the laboratory to immediately contact the on-call veterinarian if a situation such as this occurs.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to correct and prevent recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the IACUC to comply with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair
Robert Gibbens, USDA-APHIS-AC

THE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL RESOURCES

TO: Mark Taubman, M.D.
CEO, UPMC and UR Medicine
Dean, School of Medicine and Dentistry
University Vice President for Health Sciences

FROM: Chris Stodgell, Ph.D.
Chair, University Committee on Animal Resources

DATE: March 11, 2018

SUBJECT: Animals left in temporary housing.

During the February 21, 2018, meeting, the University Committee on Animal Resources discussed an issue of serious non-compliance of a USDA-regulated rodent protocol that is supported by NIH funds.

Four USDA-regulated rodents, located in a UCAR approved satellite facility, were removed from their home habitat and placed in temporary housing (with food), for routine cleaning of the home habitat. These rodents were accidentally left in the temporary cage and were discovered two days later, during a routine morning check of the satellite by a lab member. There was no food in the temporary cage upon its discovery. Upon identifying the animals in the temporary housing, the lab member provided food for the animals, and contacted the veterinarians on the following Monday morning. The attending veterinarian then observed the rodents and noted that they were bright, active and responsive, and appeared to be in good general condition. The extended time that animals were housed outside their approved habitat (i.e., the temporary cage) and the potential lack of food are both considered serious noncompliance issues by the UCAR.

The investigator involved submitted an action plan to prevent future occurrences that include hiring a new staff member to oversee animal colonies. The PI has also instituted new lab procedures which include a daily check of temporary housing cages for any animals left behind. The PI also states that a staff member involved in this incident was removed from animal responsibilities. Further, UCAR discussed with the lab the importance of immediately contacting the university's on-call veterinarian without exception when something of this nature is identified. The committee is satisfied with the PI's plan to prevent further incidence of this nature.

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CS/jz

Mark B. Taubman, MD
CEO, University of Rochester Medical Center and UR Medicine
Dean, School of Medicine and Dentistry
Senior Vice President for Health Sciences



MEDICINE *of* THE HIGHEST ORDER

March 12, 2018

Axel Wolf, M.S., D.V.M.
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
67005 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7982
Bethesda, Maryland 20892 – 7982

REF: Animal Welfare Assurance #D16-00188

Dear Dr. Wolff:

I am attaching a report from the University Committee on Animal Resources about a noncompliance issue.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Chair of the Committee, Dr. Chris Stodgell, if you wish further information. His contact information is: phone number (b) (6) email address is Chris_Stodgell@urmc.rochester.edu

Yours truly,

(b) (6)

Mark B. Taubman, M.D.

Attachment
MT/jz