



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

January 3, 2017

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

Mark Taubman, M.D.  
Senior Vice President for Health Science  
CEO of Medical Center and Strong Hospital  
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 December 22, 2016 letter reporting a noncompliance with the PHS Policy on the Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Rochester Medical Center. According to the information provided it is understood that on December 21, 2016 your IACUC discussed the issue of a lab staff member who gave another new, untrained member a mouse for “practice”. The animal had been found unattended in the lab in an unmarked cage. The investigator was counseled regarding keeping animals in the lab for more than 24 hours and allowing an untrained, unapproved staff member to practice on an animal. It was not stated if the animal was assigned to an activity that received PHS funding.

The UCAR approved the corrective actions submitted by the investigator which included meeting with the Attending Veterinarian and retraining the entire lab.

OLAW believes that the corrective measure put in place by the University of Rochester Medical Center is consistent with the provisions of the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals as far as they go. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

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

cc: UCAR Contact

A3297-10

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



UNIVERSITY of  
**ROCHESTER**  
MEDICAL CENTER

MEDICINE of THE HIGHEST ORDER

December 22, 2016

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

Ref: Animal Welfare Assurance No. A-3292-01

Dear Dr. Wolff:

I am attaching a report from the University Committee on Animal Resource regarding a non-compliance issue.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Chair of the Committee, Dr. Suzanne Stevens, if you wish further information. You can call the UCAR office at Phone Number or her email address is [suzanne\\_stevens@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:suzanne_stevens@urmc.rochester.edu)

Yours truly,

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

Attachment

THE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL RESOURCES

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

FROM: Suzanne Y. Stevens, Ph.D.  
Chair, University Committee on Animal Resources

DATE: December 21, 2016

SUBJECT: Staff Non-compliance

During the December 21, 2016, meeting, the University Committee on Animal Resources discussed a serious issue of non-compliance concerning a mouse cage that was left in a lab for an undetermined amount of time.

It was discovered that a lab staff member (who would be soon leaving the university) gave a mouse in an unmarked cage to a new, untrained member of the same lab for "practice." When interviewed about the incident the staff member said the mouse was given to him by a different investigator's lab, which turned out to be untrue; the mouse belonged to the lab it was found in. No one involved could say for sure how long the mouse/cage had been in the lab.

The investigator was informed of the several issues of non-compliance involved with the above narrative: animals are not permitted to be kept in a lab for more than 24 hours; staff members are not permitted to handle mice until training is complete and they are approved on a protocol; the cage was unlabeled; and a trained, experienced staff member "gave" a mouse to an untrained staff member for practice. It was also noted that it was unethical to try to "cover up" the mouse's origins by blaming another lab.

The investigator apologized for the error, submitted an action plan to avoid a repeat incident before UCAR held its next meeting, had a meeting with our attending veterinarian and the entire lab underwent retraining. His response was reviewed and approved at the December 21, 2016, meeting, and the committee voted to report this incident of noncompliance to OLAW.

Copy: Secondary Individual

SS/jz

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

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2016 2:45 PM  
**To:** UCAR; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Noncompliance Report

Thank you for this report. We will send an official response soon.

Regards, Brent Morse

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

Please note that this message and any of its attachments are intended for the named recipient(s) only and may contain confidential, protected or privileged information that should not be distributed to unauthorized individuals. If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender.

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**From:** UCAR [mailto:UCAR@URMC.Rochester.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2016 1:48 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Subject:** Noncompliance Report

To whom it may concern:

Attached you will find a noncompliance report from the University Committee on Animal Resources (UCAR) at the University of Rochester.

Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Suzanne Stevens (Chair of UCAR) or me if you have any questions. Dr. Stevens contact information is as follows: her direct line is [Phone Number] and her email address is [Suzanne\\_Stevens@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Suzanne_Stevens@urmc.rochester.edu). Emailing Dr. Stevens is the best way to contact her.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]  
Secondary Individual

Secretary for University Committee on Animal Resources  
University of Rochester, School of Medicine and Dentistry  
601 Elmwood Avenue, Box 674  
Rochester, New York 14642  
Office Phone: [Redacted] - Fax Number: [Redacted]  
[Redacted]@urmc.rochester.edu

UCAR Email: [ucar@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:ucar@urmc.rochester.edu)