



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

July 16, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#A3290-01 (OLAW Case 1Q)

Dr. Todd Evans  
Associate Dean for Research  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
1300 York Avenue-LC710  
New York, NY 10065

Dear Dr. Evans,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your June 29, 2018 letter reporting two instances of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Weill Cornell Medical College. According to the information provided, OLAW understands the following about the two incidents and the corresponding corrective actions which have been taken:

- 1) Expired Bupivacaine and Metacam were administered to several mice that underwent head implantation surgery in the first noncompliant incident. The corrective action for this non-PHS funded animal activity included the IACUC reviewing and approving a plan submitted by the Principal Investigator to prevent the future use of expired drugs.
- 2) The second incident involved the death of two mice and provision of supportive care to two additional mice from the same cage as a result of food deprivation. The responsible animal care technician was retrained and the Principal Investigator discussed with laboratory personnel the importance of ensuring animals are healthy with adequate food and water.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate, correct and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

*For*

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT  
Animal Welfare Program Specialist  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair



# Weill Cornell Medicine

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee  
1300 York Avenue, Box 5  
New York, NY 10065

Telephone: 646-962-2981/2  
Email: iacucadmin@med.cornell.edu

445 East 69<sup>th</sup> Street, Olin Hall Rm-423  
New York, NY 10065

June 29, 2018

Brent Morse, DVM  
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: Assurance # D16-00186

Dear Dr. Morse:

We are writing to report incidents of non-compliance that occurred within the animal care and use program at Weill Cornell Medicine. The incidents and resolutions are as follows:

#### Incident #1

Several mice were administered expired drugs (bupivacaine and metacam) for head plate implantation surgery. The IACUC concluded that these mice may not have received adequate pain relief.

#### Resolution

The PI was asked to address this issue with his laboratory members performing surgery and to formulate and present a plan to prevent the use of expired drugs in the future. The PI submitted a plan to the IACUC which was reviewed and approved. (These experiments are not PHS funded.)

#### Incident #2

A cage was found with no feed resulting in the death of two mice. Two additional mice in the cage were found moribund and provided supportive care.

#### Resolution

All cages are checked at least daily by the animal care staff and all stock cages maintained in the room include feed and water. Since this cage was missed during daily animal care staff health checks, the animal care technician assigned to this room was retrained and corrective action implemented. The PI was also contacted and asked to address this issue with his lab members and remind them that they should ensure their cages are provided feed and water when being established and are monitored to ensure the animals are healthy and have adequate food and water.

We believe that these issues have been adequately addressed and that the procedures implemented should prevent recurrence. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [REDACTED] or the IACUC Chairman, Dr. Andrew Nicholson, at [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Todd R. Evans, Ph.D.  
Institutional Official  
Associate Dean for Research  
Weill Cornell Medicine

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

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 8:28 AM  
**To:** (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Cc:** Andrew C. Nicholson; Todd R. Evans  
**Subject:** RE: WCM IACUC Incident Report (#D16-00186)

Thank you for providing this report (b) (6) 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:** (b) (6)@med.cornell.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 09, 2018 3:26 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** Andrew C. Nicholson <nicholso@med.cornell.edu>; Todd R. Evans <tre2003@med.cornell.edu>  
**Subject:** WCM IACUC Incident Report (#D16-00186)  
**Importance:** High

Dear OLAW:

Please find a WCM IACUC incident report attached and let me know if any further clarifications are required.

Best regards,

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(b) (6)

