



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

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Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
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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

February 13, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3347-01 [OLAW Case 2W]

Dr. Emmanuel Giannelis,
Vice Provost for Life Sciences
Cornell University
8576
Day Hall
Ithaca, NY 14850

Dear Dr. Giannelis,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your February 6, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Cornell University. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on November 21, 2018 two mice on a water deprivation study were found to be dehydrated. The mice were examined, provided water and recovered fully. There was no written record of anyone from the PI's lab checking on the animals or providing water from 11/19/2018 to 11/21/2018. The student responsible for the incident failed to notify the lab technician that she was initiating a water deprivation study, so no autoremindes for animal checks were initiated in the lab messaging system. A similar occurrence had taken place earlier in the month with the same mice. The affected animals were on an activity that was funded by the PHS.

Corrective actions included veterinarians counseling the PI and the lab group. The lab now has a policy that no one may initiate a water deprivation experiment without first obtaining permission from the lab technician and the PI. The student responsible for the incident no longer works with this lab.

The prompt consideration of this matter by Cornell University was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Similarly, the actions taken to resolve the issue and prevent recurrence were appropriate. 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



Cornell University
Office of
Research Integrity and Assurance

395 Pine Tree Road, Suite 320
 Ithaca, NY 14850
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February 6, 2019

Axel Wolff, MS, DVM, DACLAM
 Deputy Director, Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
 National Institutes of Health
 6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500, MSC 6910
 Bethesda, MD 20892

Animal Welfare Assurance Number: D16-00225 (A3347-01) Cornell University – Ithaca
 PHS Grant or Contract Number: 1DP2HD087952-01

Dear Dr. Wolff:

As Institutional Official for Cornell University's animal care and use program, I am reporting an incident of noncompliance that occurred under our General Assurance. This incident involved two mice and occurred on November 21, 2018. This issue was reported to the IACUC at the December 13, 2018 meeting, and the IACUC agreed that the corrective actions taken were appropriate.

Explanation of the situation:

On November 21, 2018, two mice that were on a water deprivation study were found by the facility manager to be dehydrated. Veterinary staff from the Cornell Center for Animal Resources and Education (CARE) examined the animals and found both mice dehydrated, hunched and with decreased body condition. There was no written record of anyone from the Principal Investigator's (PI's) lab checking on the animals or providing water from 11/19/2018 to 11/21/2018. A similar occurrence had taken place earlier in the month with these same mice.

The mice were provided with water immediately and recovered fully. The PI and lab responded quickly and found that the rotating student in charge of the mice had failed to update records and/or had not given the mice water when they were supposed to. This rotating student subsequently was not offered a position in the lab, and was asked to find a new lab to work in.

Action taken by the institution:

Although the PI is confident that similar issues will not reoccur since the offending student is no longer present, veterinarians from the Cornell Center for Animal Resources and Education met with the PI and the lab group to better understand lab practices and review record-keeping procedures in an effort to prevent these sorts of issues from recurring. Even though there is a lab messaging system in place that sends autoremindes for animal checks, in this case the student did not let the technician know that she was initiating a water deprivation study, so the messaging system was not activated. The lab has a new policy that no one may initiate water deprivation experiments without first obtaining permission from the lab technician and the PI.

If you have any questions concerning this incident of noncompliance with our General Assurance, please call (b) (6) or email her at (b) (6)

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Emmanuel Giannelis
 Vice Provost for Research

cc: (b) (6)

(b) (6)
 AAALAC International

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2019 1:55 PM
To: (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: (b) (6) Office of the Vice Provost for Research
Subject: RE: Cornell University Report of Noncompliance

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)
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2019 1:41 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: jswearengen@aaalac.org; (b) (6) Office of the
Vice Provost for Research <vp_research@cornell.edu>
Subject: Cornell University Report of Noncompliance

Dear Dr. Wolff,

Please see the attached final report from Cornell University's Vice Provost for Research, Dr. Emmanuel Giannelis, describing an issue of noncompliance that occurred under our General Assurance. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

(b) (6)



CornellResearch