



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

February 26, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3222-01 [OLAW Case U]

Aleister Saunders, Ph.D.
Senior Vice Provost for Research
Drexel University
3180 Chestnut Street, (b) (4)
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Dear Dr. Saunders,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your February 13, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Drexel University. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that one cage of anesthetized mice was returned to the rack before recovery and was not monitored. Also, the cages were not properly labeled as being biohazardous.

The corrective actions consisted of the investigator counseling the laboratory staff on monitoring mice until fully recovered from anesthesia and on following institutional biosafety procedures. A post-operative checklist will be posted in the animal housing and surgery room and the laboratory manager will receive confirmation from staff when mice have recovered from anesthesia and that a biohazard card has been placed on the cage.

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 institution to comply with the PHS Policy.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair

February 13th, 2019

Axel Wolff, DVM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Rockledge 1, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Wolff:

Drexel University, in accordance with Assurance D16-00138 and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this report of noncompliance in which a cage of mice was placed onto a ventilated housing rack and left unsupervised before they had fully recovered from anesthesia. Additionally, there was a failure to properly mark cages with a biohazard descriptor cage card as required by the biosafety protocol. The work performed on this protocol is supported by National Institute of Health grant number 1R01CA202929-01A1.

On 2/1/2019, an investigator self-reported that a laboratory member had returned a cage of mice to their ventilated, unheated housing rack before the animals had regained sternal recumbence following anesthesia. This laboratory member had also failed to properly label the cages with the appropriate biohazard cage cards as required by the biosafety protocol. Following this self-report, the investigator met with the Animal Welfare Analyst (Post Approval Monitor) to discuss the incident and subsequent prevention plan indicated below.

- The investigator discussed the importance of animal welfare and ethics with all laboratory members. The investigator stressed that it is mandatory to place biohazard descriptors on cages when appropriate and reiterated the importance of monitoring mice and only returning them to their housing rack once they have fully recovered from anesthesia.
- The laboratory will post a post-operative checklist in the animal housing/surgical room. Additionally, the laboratory manager will be notified of all scheduled surgeries. Once the surgeon has returned to the lab, the laboratory manager will obtain a verbal confirmation that animals had been allowed to recover on a heat pad and were returned to the housing rack only after they had regained full sternal recumbence. The lab manager will also ask for verbal confirmation that the appropriate biohazard card has been affixed to the front of the cage.



The IACUC voted at the February 13th meeting to accept the report and plan of action.

Drexel University is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Michael O'Connor, MD, PhD, IACUC Chair or Richard Huneke, DVM, attending veterinarian.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

(b) (6)

Aleister Saunders, Ph.D.
Senior Vice Provost for Research
Professor, Department of Biology
Institutional Official

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 10:12 AM
To: Iacuc; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: (b) (6) Saunders, Aleister
Subject: RE: Report of Non-Compliance- Drexel University- D16-00138 (NIH grant 01R01CA202929-01A1)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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

Best regards, Brent Morse

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

From: Iacuc <iacuc@drexel.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2019 3:38 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) Saunders, Aleister <ajs56@drexel.edu>
Subject: Report of Non-Compliance- Drexel University- D16-00138 (NIH grant 01R01CA202929-01A1)

Hello,

Drexel University (Assurance D16-00138) would like to self-report a non-compliance relating to NIH grant 01R01CA202929-01A1. Please see the attached letter with a description of the incident and the actions taken in response.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thank you,

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