



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

February 22, 2018

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3047-01 (OLAW Case 2K)

Serpil C. Erzurum, M.D.
Chair, Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute
Lerner Research Institute
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
9500 Euclid Avenue, NB21
Cleveland, OH 44195

Dear Dr. Ezurum,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your February 14, 2018 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Cleveland Clinic. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that mice were inappropriately euthanized by a postdoctoral fellow who left the animals unsupervised and failed to assure death following carbon dioxide asphyxiation. The fellow was also observed to be technically incompetent at performing cervical dislocation in mice. The associated animal activities in question were PHS supported.

The corrective actions consisted of revoking the responsible fellow's animal facility access and animal use privileges until training on mouse handling and euthanasia have been completed and reviewed with the Attending Veterinarian.

Your prompt and thorough resolution of this matter is commendable and consistent with the PHS philosophy of monitored self-regulation. We appreciate having been informed about this matter and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Chair



Serpil C. Erzurum, M.D.
Chair
Lerner Research Institute

February 14, 2018

Brent C. Morse, D.V.M.
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Rockledge One, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817

Dear Dr. Morse:

The Cleveland Clinic Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) concluded that animal research non-compliance occurred in the Cleveland Clinic Animal Care Program. On January 8, 2018, a postdoctoral fellow was observed not following the approved euthanasia SOP. She left mice unattended during the CO2 asphyxiation process and she did not provide a secondary physical method of euthanasia. She appeared not to be technically proficient at performing cervical dislocation correctly on the animals. Her animal facility access and privilege to perform animal research were immediately revoked.

The IACUC discussed this incident at the January 16 IACUC meeting and determined that the postdoctoral fellow would not be able to conduct any procedures involving live animals until she had undergone retraining with respect to the correct procedures for mouse euthanasia and handling. The IACUC agreed that she could resume animal work and BRU access could be restored at the discretion of the AV following retraining. The postdoc addressed the incident in a letter and met with the AV to review appropriate procedures for handling and euthanizing mice. Based on the AV's recommendation, the postdoc was permitted to resume work with animals.

The Animal Welfare Assurance number for Cleveland Clinic PHS-funded grants is A3047-01. This protocol is funded by PHS grants R01 HL094505 and R03 CA202131.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Serpil C. Erzurum, M.D.
Alfred Lerner Memorial Chair in Innovative Biomedical Research
Chair, Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute

SCE/ag

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 8:57 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Cleveland Clinic Noncompliance Report - 2/14/2018 (1 of 2)

Thank you for this report. We will send a response soon.

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.
Deputy Director, OLAW

From: (b) (6)@ccf.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 3:48 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: accredit@AAALAC.org; (b) (6)@ccf.org>
Subject: Cleveland Clinic Noncompliance Report - 2/14/2018 (1 of 2)

Dear Dr. Morse:

Attached please find a noncompliance report from the Subcommittee for Non-compliance of the Cleveland Clinic IACUC, dated February 14, 2018 (1 of 2).

Please acknowledge receipt.

Thank you,
(b) (6)



(b) (6)

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

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