



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

November 21, 2019

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
#A3180-01 (OLAW Case 5I)

Dr. Todd Sherer
Interim Vice President for Research Administration
Emory University
1599 Clifton Road NE – 4th floor
Atlanta, GA 30322

Dear Dr. Sherer,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your November 13, 2019 letter reporting a serious deviation from the provisions of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* at Emory University, following up on an initial report on June 20, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that nine lampreys died due to low aeration and water levels. The laboratory staff had not been observing the fish daily, the staff had not been checking water levels or aeration stones, and there was no husbandry log being kept.

The corrective actions consisted of directing the laboratory staff to perform daily health checks, to maintain a husbandry log, and to have the veterinary staff check the animal room weekly to assess animal welfare and ensure that staff is performing their duties. The weekly veterinary checks will end once it is determined that all activities are being conducted correctly and animals are in good condition.

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 on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Contact



EMORY
UNIVERSITY

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

November 13, 2019

Brent Morse DVM
Acting Director, Division of Compliance
Oversight Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
RKL 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982
Re: Emory University, Animal Welfare Assurance #A3180-01

Dear Dr. Morse,

The Emory University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), through the Institutional Official, is reporting the results of an event as required by section IV, F, 3a of the *Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (PHS Policy). A preliminary report was provided via email to your office on June 20, 2019. This is the final report regarding the death of 9 lampreys due to low aeration and low water levels. The associated NIH-funded grant is NIH AG023695.

Situation and Assessment

On May 4, 2019, it was discovered that several of the lamprey larval tanks had low aeration and that one tank had low water levels. A total of 9 animals died as a result of this incident. Upon investigation of the situation, it was discovered that the lab staff were not observing the animals on a daily basis, there was no consistent schedule for checking the changes of the water levels in the tanks or checking the aeration stones and there was no husbandry log maintained by the lab.

The corrective actions to prevent recurrences are detailed as follows:

1. The lab will perform daily animal checks and will document all husbandry activities in a created husbandry log book.
2. DAR vet staff will check on the animal room once weekly for a month to ensure that husbandry logs are being maintained by the lab and that all animals are stable. Upon determination that the lab is documenting all husbandry activities and the animals are stable, vet staff will discontinue weekly rounds.

The IACUC believes its investigation of this incident was thorough and the corrective actions appropriate to prevent a similar occurrence. If you have questions regarding this incident, please contact me or Dr. David Martin, Director, IACUC Office.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Todd Sherer, PhD
Interim Vice President for Research Administration
Emory University

Cc: Jeff Boatright, IACUC Chair; AAALAC

Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 7:59 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Final Notification Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01)

Thank you for these reports, (b) (6) We will respond soon.

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2019 12:59 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: Final Notification Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01)

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept these final reports of a 1.) improper toe clipping of mice and protocol violation, 2.) death of lampreys due to low tank water and aeration, and 3.) use of the same sterile needle on two separate animals at Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01). If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Best,

(b) (6)

This e-mail message (including any attachments) is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this message (including any attachments) is strictly prohibited.

If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender by reply e-mail message and destroy all copies of the original message (including attachments).

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Friday, June 21, 2019 8:42 AM
To: (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: Martin, W David
Subject: RE: Preliminary Notification Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01)

Thank you for providing this preliminary report Dr. Martin. We will open a case file and await further information.

Best regards, Brent Morse

Brent C. Morse, DVM, DACLAM
 Director
 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.

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2019 11:00 AM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Martin, W David <dwmarti@emory.edu>; (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Preliminary Notification Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01)

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this preliminary notification of a lamprey health and welfare concern at Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01). An incident occurred where due to low aeration and low water in the lamprey larval tanks, 9 animals died. The NIH grants associated with this protocol are 5U01CA19982-03, 1R43GM133296-01, 5R01AI72435-6, R35 GM122591-01 and 5U01CA19982-03. This investigation is ongoing and corrective actions are still being completed. A final report will be upcoming.

W. David Martin PhD, CPIA
 Director, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)
 Phone: (b) (6)
 Email: dwmarti@emory.edu
 Internet: <http://www.iacuc.emory.edu/>

This e-mail message (including any attachments) is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this message (including any attachments) is strictly prohibited.

If you have received this message in error, please contact