



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) 480-3387

February 11, 2020

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

Dr. Robert Nobles
Vice President for Research Administration
Emory University
1599 Clifton Road NE – 1599-001-1BE
Atlanta, GA 30322

Dear Dr. Nobles,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your November 27, 2019 letter (received February 10, 2020) reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Emory University, following up on an initial report on October 31, 2019. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that hair was removed from 29 mice using depilatory cream. The substance had not been properly removed which caused irritation and constituted an animal welfare concern.

The corrective actions consisted of the veterinary staff treating the mice, obtaining new clippers to ensure proper removal of hair and prevent cuts, and amending the protocol to clarify the application and removal of depilatory cream.

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



EMORY
UNIVERSITY

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

November 27, 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 October 31, 2019. This is the final report regarding a lab's use of depilatory cream which caused animal welfare to those affected. The associated NIH-funded grants are 5R01AI111557-04 and HHSN272201400004C.

Situation and Assessment

On June 4, 2019, it was discovered that approximately 29 mice were affected by the use of applying depilatory cream that was not correctly removed by lab members. EU DAR Veterinary staff was able to treat all animals.

The corrective actions to prevent recurrences are detailed as follows:

1. The lab bought a new pair of clippers to prevent clipper cuts and burns.
2. The lab has conducted a review of their approved protocol and has submitted an amendment which refines the use of the depilatory cream procedure. The amendment was approved on 8/29/19.

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)

Robert Nobles, DrPH, MPH, CIP

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: Monday, February 10, 2020 12:55 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Final Notification Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01)

Thank you (b) (6) We will send a response soon.

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 12:45 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Final Notification Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01)

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this final report of the incorrect removal of depilatory cream at Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01). If there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Best,

(b) (6)

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Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2019 7:12 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Preliminary Notification Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01)

Thank you for this preliminary report. We will open a new case file and look forward to receiving the final report from the IO after the IACUC has completed its investigation.

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2019 2:38 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: Martin, W David <dwmarti@emory.edu>; (b) (6)
Subject: Preliminary Notification Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01)

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this preliminary notification of a rodent health and welfare concern at Emory University (Assurance #A3180-01). An incident occurred where a lab's personnel did not correctly remove depilatory cream from animals causing animal welfare to those affected. The NIH grants associated with this protocol are 5R01AI111557-04 and HHSN272201400004C. 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/>

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