



USDA-APHIS-Animal Care



ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINT			
Complaint No. AC20-160	Date Entered: 26-Feb-20	Processed By: AVB	
Referred To: Andricos / Garland		Reply Due: 29-Mar-20	
Facility or Person Complaint Filed Against			
Name: University of California - Los Angeles		Customer No.: 9194	License No.: 93-R-0435
Address: UCLA School of Medicine- KLAM 10833 Le Conte Ave., Rm 16-222 HCHS		Email Address:	
City: Los Angeles	State: CA	Phone No.: (310) 794-2575	
Complainant Information			
Name: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)		Organization: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)	
Address: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)		Email Address: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)	
City: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)	State: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)	Phone No.: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)	
How was the Complaint received? Email			
Details of Complaint: SEE ATTACHED			
Results: The facility noted in the complaint had an unexpected event occur with experimental use of the laser and a second pig had an totally obstructed ureter a ureter. The facility immediately euthanized the both pigs to prevent unnecessary pain or distress. Neither of these events would be an NCI. During the inspection conducted by Dr. Amanda White and I on 13 February 2020 (after the date of this complaint), UCLA did not have Peromyscus spp. at UCLA. Further, they did not have any recent or current protocols for them. The complaint must be referencing the incorrect facility.			
Application Kit Provided: Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Inspector: Michael A. Schnell		Date: 26-Mar-20	
Reviewed By: KATHLEEN GARLAND		Date: 26-Mar-20	
Digitally signed by KATHLEEN GARLAND Date: 2020.03.26 11:30:21 -07'00'			



February 26, 2020

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Animal Care
4700 River Road
Riverdale, MD
20737

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)

Dear Complainant:

Thank you for your correspondence dated 4-Feb-20. We are reviewing your concerns and assigned tracking number AC20-160. Please allow us enough time (30 to 60 days) to thoroughly look into your concerns. You may submit a request to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) office to obtain any publically available information regarding our review.

FOIA requests can be submitted three ways:

1. Web Request Form: <https://efoia-pal.usda.gov/App/Home.aspx>
2. Fax: (301) 734-5941
3. U.S. Mail:
USDA-APHIS-FOIA
4700 River Road, Unit 50
Riverdale, MD 20737

Should you have any questions regarding the APHIS FOIA process or need assistance using the Web Request Form **please contact the APHIS FOIA office at 301-851-4102.**

Animal Care is a program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that directs activities to ensure compliance with and enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act. Animal Care establishes standards of humane treatment for regulated animals and monitors and achieves compliance through inspections, enforcement, education, and cooperative efforts under the Acts.

Please be assured that we will look into your concern(s) and take appropriate action(s).

Thank you for your interest into the humane treatment of these animals.

Sincerely,

Betty Goldentyer
Deputy Administrator
Animal Care

Benson, Amy V - APHIS

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 3:13 PM
To: Gibbens, Robert - APHIS
Cc: APHIS-AnimalCare
Subject: Official complaint -- UCLA

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)



Dr. Robert Gibbens

2/4/20

Director, Western Region, USDA/APHIS/AC,
2150 Center Ave.
Building B, Mailstop 3W11
Fort Collins, CO 80526-8117

Dr. Gibbens,

I am writing to you today to file an Official Complaint against the University of California, Los Angeles (93-R-0435), for clear violations of the Animal Welfare Act which took the life of one animal and allowed three others to escape from their enclosures.

I have recently obtained reports of unexpected outcomes and adverse incidents which were reported to the UCLA ARC (Animal Research Committee). The attached reports list multiple incidents which must be investigated ASAP.

First, a report dated 8/29/19 details an incident which led to the death of a research subject. During a bungled surgical procedure, UCLA research staff inflicted "laser punctures" which "lead to significant blood loss" necessitating immediate euthanasia for the research subject, a pig. Apparently the pig was in the process of bleeding to death. This botched surgical procedure potentially violates multiple regulations including, but not limited to: **Sec. 2.33 Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care, Sec. 2.38 (f)(1) Animal Handling, Sec. 2.32 Personnel Qualifications, 2.31 Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee, etc.**

A second report dated 5/24/19, discloses the fact that UCLA staff allowed three peromyscus mice to escape from an enclosure. This incident clearly violates **Sec. 2.38 (f)(1) Animal Handling**.

I hereby file an Official Complaint against the University of California, Los Angeles, for failure to provide adequate veterinary care, unqualified personnel, improper animal handling, etc.. I must insist that your office institute an immediate investigation.

I know that your office considers major violations of the Animal Welfare Act to be very serious in nature, especially when these violations kill or seriously injure animals. I must insist that you take the most severe action allowable under the Animal Welfare Act and immediately begin the process of issuing the maximum fine allowable against the University of California, Los Angeles, at the completion of your investigation -- \$10,000 per infraction/per animal.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future about the fate of this facility.

Sincerely,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)

Species: Swine

Report submitted 8/29/19

Annual Review

Did any adverse or unanticipated events with animal health, behavior or well-being occur during the last year?
Adverse events or unanticipated problems may include pain, distress, morbidity and/or mortality observed in the animals.

☐ No

☒ Yes

Provide details about the adverse/unanticipated event(s), including:
1. Describe how the events were managed at the time of occurrence.
2. Explain what steps were taken to prevent recurrence.

During the first procedure using a pig in the experimental group, one of the retrograde laser punctures lead to significant blood loss for the pig, and we decided to end the experiment early by euthanizing in order to avoid any resulting distress or pain. We concluded that the retrograde laser access technique was not feasible for this study as it resulted in unpredictable trajectory of the percutaneous access. We therefore submitted a modification to the protocol to create a percutaneous tract using the standard fluoroscopic guided needle instead of laser. Since the approval of this modification, we have successfully completed several procedures with no adverse effects. During the second diagnostic procedure performed on a control pig we were not able to gain access to one of the ureters due to complete obstruction. Data collection was not completed for this control pig and in order to avoid any pain or distress associated with an obstructed kidney we euthanized the pig. Since then we were able to access all ureters in the study pigs.

☐ [ACTION REQUIRED - IACUC] - Follow-up by the IACUC office (if applicable):

Species: Peromyscus

AR submitted to IACUC 5/24/19

Annual Review

Did any adverse or unanticipated events with animal health, behavior or well-being occur during the last year?
Adverse events or unanticipated problems may include pain, distress, morbidity and/or mortality observed in the animals.

☐ No

☒ Yes

Provide details about the adverse/unanticipated event(s), including:
1. Describe how the events were managed at the time of occurrence.
2. Explain what steps were taken to prevent recurrence.

On Monday 5/13/19 3 Peromyscus leucopus were noted by vivarium staff to have escaped from their cage by chewing a hole in the plastic. This probably occurred over weekend. One animal was captured by vivarium staff. The other two were captured by veterinarian over the next two days. The lab was informed of these events and checked on condition of the other cages and animals. On 5/15/19 veterinarian reported that first mouse captured on 5/13 was displaying decreased mobility, ruffled fur, and reddened eyes. On 5/16 the animal was administered fluids by the animal but it was found dead. A necropsy to veterinarian involved peritonitis. This was probably the consequence of trauma sustained during the 5-7 days it was loose or when it was captured by vivarium staff. The other two animals show no apparent residual effects. This type of cage is no longer being used for housing the Peromyscus.

☐ [ACTION REQUIRED - IACUC] - Follow-up by the IACUC office (if applicable):



Inspection Report

University Of California Los Angeles
U.C.L.A. School Of Medicine - D L A M
10833 Le Conte Avenue, Room 16-222 H C H S
Los Angeles, CA 90095

Customer ID: **9194**

Certificate: **93-R-0435**

Site: 001

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION

Date: 05-MAR-2019

No non-compliant items identified during this inspection.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted on March 5 and 7, 2019 with facility representatives.

Prepared By:

MICHAEL SCHNELL

Digitally signed by MICHAEL
SCHNELL

Date: 2019.03.26 12:17:03 -07'00'

SCHNELL MICHAEL, D V M USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:

26-MAR-2019

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER 6100

Received By:

FACILITY REPRESENTATIVE

20-03433_000066

Title: SENT VIA EMAIL

Obtained by Rise for Animals. Uploaded 07/10/2020
Date: 26-MAR-2019



Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
9194	93-R-0435	001	THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES	05-MAR-19

No Animals were Inspected.

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000000	NONE	NONE
000000	Total	

Schnell, Michael A - APHIS

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@research.ucla.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:41 PM
To: Schnell, Michael A - APHIS
Cc: Andricos, Alexandra - APHIS
Subject: RE: Inspection Report for IR_9194_UCLA_05Mar2019 signed

Thank you – I confirm receipt of the inspection report.

Regards,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: Schnell, Michael A - APHIS <michael.a.schnell@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:19 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@research.ucla.edu>
Cc: Andricos, Alexandra - APHIS <alexandra.andricos@usda.gov>
Subject: Inspection Report for IR_9194_UCLA_05Mar2019 signed

Please find attached the Inspection Report your facility from your most recent inspection. Please reply to this email to only acknowledge receipt of this document.

Sincerely,
Michael A. Schnell, DVM, MBA
Veterinary Medical Officer
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care



This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Teachable Moments

Legal Name: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES

Customer Number: 9194 Certificate Number: 93-R-0435

Inspection Date: 05-MAR-19 Site Number: 001

Inspector: MICHAEL SCHNELL, D V M,

Section: _____

3.125(a) FACILITIES, GENERAL.

Primary enclosures must be maintained in good repair to contain the animals and protect them from injury.

Additional Inspectors

White Amanda, Veterinary Medical Officer

Schnell, Michael A - APHIS

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@research.ucla.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:41 PM
To: Schnell, Michael A - APHIS
Cc: Andricos, Alexandra - APHIS
Subject: RE: Teachable Moment TM_9194_UCLA_05Mar2019

Thank you – I confirm receipt of the teachable moment.

Regards,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: Schnell, Michael A - APHIS <michael.a.schnell@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 12:23 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)@research.ucla.edu>
Cc: Andricos, Alexandra - APHIS <alexandra.andricos@usda.gov>
Subject: Teachable Moment TM_9194_UCLA_05Mar2019

Please find attached the Teachable Moment for your facility from your recent inspection. Please reply to this email to only acknowledge receipt of this document.

Sincerely,
Michael A. Schnell, DVM, MBA
Veterinary Medical Officer
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care



This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

Research Facility Protocol Selection Worksheet^{*}

Legal Name: University of California Los Angeles

Customer Number: 9194

Certificate Number: 93-R0435

Site Number: 001

Inspection Date: 07-Mar-2019

Inspection Type: Routine ☐ Focused ☒ (list areas inspected) _____ Paperwork

Inspector: Schnell, White

Reasons Protocols Were Selected for Review :	How Many Protocols Were Selected
1. Protocols identified during inspection of concern (select all)	1
2. Column E protocols (select all)	2
3. Protocols with IACUC-approved exemptions/exceptions (select all)	0
4. Protocols cited as noncompliant and not corrected during the last inspection (select all)	0
5. Additional Protocols Selected: a. If <5 remaining protocols, select all remaining: b. If >5 remaining protocols, select 5 additional protocols: 1) Protocol for each regulated species and/or, 2) Protocols involving high risk procedures (see Chapter 7, Animal Welfare Inspection Guide for guidance):	5
Total Protocols Selected and Reviewed	8

***Note:** Protocol selection guidance applies to protocols which have been initially approved, or have had significant changes approved, since the last inspection. For protocols reviewed by an Animal Care Veterinary Medical Officer within the last year, professional judgment should be used in determining whether another review is necessary.

Version 2/11/19