



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

January 16, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A4365-01 [OLAW Case 3Z]

Stephan S. Monroe, Ph.D.  
Associate Director for Laboratory  
Science and Safety  
Centers for Disease Control  
1600 Clifton Road NE, (b)(6)  
Atlanta, GA 30333

Dear Dr. Monroe,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your December 31, 2019 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Atlanta. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on October 25, 2019 it was discovered that approximately 50 chicks had unexpectedly hatched inside an incubator. The use of live animals was not approved by the IACUC. The on-call veterinarian humanely euthanized all of the chicks. It was subsequently determined that a laboratorian had misread the date label on the eggs and placed eggs in the incubator that were older than expected.

Corrective and preventive actions included several changes to the date labelling of eggs and physically separating eggs destined for the incubator from other eggs. Laboratory personnel have been trained on the new procedures.

The prompt consideration of this matter by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Similarly, the actions taken to resolve the issue and prevent recurrence were appropriate. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by this office at this time.

Sincerely,

Brent C. Morse, DVM  
Director  
Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Chair



A 4365-32

Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention (CDC)  
Atlanta GA 30329-4027

PHS Assurance #D16-00685 (A4365-01)

December 31, 2019

Dr. Brent Morse  
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
Rockledge One, Suite 360  
6705 Rockledge Drive – MSC 7982  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Dear Dr. Morse,

On the morning of Friday, October 25, 2019, a CDC laboratorian discovered approximately 50 chicks had hatched from embryonated eggs inside an incubator while performing daily temperature monitoring. The laboratorian's supervisor immediately reported the incident to Division leadership and the IACUC Chair. The IACUC Chair notified the on-call veterinarian, who then immediately went on-site and humanely euthanized all hatched chicks in accordance with the 2013 AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals.

Upon investigation, CDC determined that a laboratorian had switched two batches of uninfected eggs due to mislabeling of dates. The eggs labeled with a date of 10/4 were inadvertently mistaken as the eggs labeled with the date 10/14 by laboratory personnel. The 10/4 eggs were placed back into the egg incubator instead of being placed into the chill refrigerator, while the eggs labeled 10/14 were placed in the chill refrigerator instead of being placed into the egg incubator.

In response to this incident, the laboratory has made several changes regarding the handling and labeling of eggs scheduled to be chilled or refrigerated. A designated container will be used to physically separate eggs to be incubated from eggs to be refrigerated or chilled. The date will now be written using a hyphen (10-4) instead of a forward slash (10/4) on the eggs to make it easier to differentiate the dates, and a red marker will be used to make a red slash mark across the tops of the eggs that are to be chilled. Laboratory personnel have been trained on these new procedures.

The CDC-Atlanta IACUC discussed this incident of noncompliance with PHS policy at the November 4, 2019 meeting as the viral study using eggs was not approved for work with live animals. The committee voted to report this incident to OLAW via the Institutional Official. Upon the corrective actions outlined above, the committee did not feel that any other actions were needed at this time.

Sincerely,

12/31/2019

X

Stephan S. Monroe, PhD  
Institutional Official  
Signed by: PIV

Stephan S. Monroe, PhD  
Institutional Official  
Associate Director for Laboratory Science and  
Safety

(b)(6)

**Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 07, 2020 8:54 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Cc:** Animal Care and Use Program Office (CD (b)(6)  
(b)(6) Monroe, Steve  
(CDC/DDPHSS/OLSS/OD); Maines, Taronna (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: Reportable Incident; PHS Assurance #D16-00685 (A4365-01)

Thank you for this report (b)(6) We will send an official response soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

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

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**From:** (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 4:53 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** Animal Care and Use Program Office (CDC) (b)(6)  
(b)(6); Monroe, Steve  
(b)(6) Maines, Taronna (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Reportable Incident; PHS Assurance #D16-00685 (A4365-01)

Dr. Morse,

Attached is a report of an incident that occurred at the CDC facility in Atlanta, GA on 25 October 2019. The Atlanta IACUC reviewed the incident and determined it to be reportable to OLAW.

Please let us know if you require any additional information at your earliest convenience.

Warm regards,

(b)(6)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
1600 Clifton Rd NE (b)(6) Atlanta, GA 30333

(b)(6)