



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

March 23, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
A3394-01 [OLAW Case 4F]

Ms. Michele Kennett  
Institutional Official  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Research  
University of Missouri- Columbia  
(b) (4) Jesse Hall  
Columbia, MO 65211

Dear Ms. Kennett,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your March 19, 2020 letter reporting a serious deviation from the provisions of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* at the University of Missouri, following up on an initial report on March 13, 2020. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that five mice died due to inability to access water as a result of two malfunctioning water bottles. Disposable water bottles are currently in use due to building renovation.

The corrective actions consisted of having animal care staff check cages twice per day and squeeze each water bottle once daily to ensure that water is coming out.

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 Chair

March 19, 2020

Division of Compliance Oversight  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
RKL 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982  
6705 Rockledge Dr.  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

**Subject: Report of adverse event**

This letter serves to outline the final actions taken by the University of Missouri (MU) in response to an adverse event in which two disposable water bottles failed resulting in the death of 5 mice. The Division of Compliance Oversight was informed of this incident initially in an email from Dr. Jeff Henegar on March 13, 2020. Public Health Service grant number covers the animals but there were no expenses incurred. The MU Animal Welfare Assurance Number is D16-00249 (A3394-01).

Two separate cages of mice had malfunctioning water bottles resulting in mouse deaths. The bottles in question are disposable bottles that come with the disposable caging system we are using while renovations are being done to one of our facilities. We initially had issues with the bottles but since have had good success until these two incidences within 10 days of each other. In both instances, the bottles were missing water so they had worked at some point.

The plan to help prevent this from happening again is 1) all personnel checking these disposable bottles will give each on a small squeeze to assure that water comes out once per day; and 2) staff are now checking the cages using these bottles twice per day.

We now consider this situation resolved. Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Jeff Henegar (Director of the ACQA Office, (b) (6)) or myself if further information is required.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Michele Kennett, JD, MSN, LLM  
Institutional Official  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Research

cc: MU Attending Veterinarian  
Facility manager  
Chair, Animal Care and Use Committee  
Assistant Director, Office of Animal Resources  
Director, Office of Animal Resources

**Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]**

---

**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2020 7:01 AM  
**To:** (b) (6)  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: OLAW 03.20.2020 MU Adverse Event report final

Thank you for this report, (b) (6) We will send a response soon.

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

**From:** (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 20, 2020 12:19 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Cc:** Kennett, Michele <kennettmr@missouri.edu>; Henegar, Jeffrey R. <henegarj@missouri.edu>  
**Subject:** OLAW 03.20.2020 MU Adverse Event report final

Attached is a MU Adverse Event Report dated 3-20-2020 from Michele Kennett. She is copied on this email. Please let us know if there is further information needed.

Thank you.

(b) (6)

**Wolff, Axel (NIH/OD) [E]**

A 3394 - 4F

**From:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2020 7:33 AM  
**To:** Henegar, Jeffrey R.  
**Cc:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Subject:** RE: Adverse event report

Thank you for this report, Dr. Henegar. We will open a new case 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:** Henegar, Jeffrey R. <henegarj@missouri.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2020 1:26 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>  
**Subject:** Adverse event report

This is a preliminary report of two, related adverse events. In brief, two separate cages of mice had malfunctioning water bottles resulting in mouse deaths. The bottles in question are disposable bottles that come with the disposable caging system we are using while renovations are being done to one of our facilities. We initially had issues with the bottles but since have had good success until this week when we have had two incidences. We are continuing to investigate the cause and what steps will be taken to prevent these malfunctions in the future. Our Institutional Official will submit a final report in the next week.

If you have questions or wish to discuss, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,  
Jeff

Jeff Henegar, Ph.D.  
Director, ACQA/OAR  
Medical Pharmacology and Physiology  
Comparative Medicine

(b) (6)