



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
#A3284-01 (OLAW Case 2B)

Dr. Jill C. Pipher
Vice President for Research
Brown University
47 George St. - Box 1937
Providence, Rhode Island 02912

Dear Dr. Pipher,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your January 17, 2020 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Brown University. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that on December 5, 2019, Center for Animal Resources and Education (CARE) staff found 4 out of 5 mice dead within their cage as the water bottle had been filled, but not properly aligned with the lixit port, preventing mice from accessing water. The remaining mouse was rehydrated but was humanely euthanized as its condition did not improve. On January 6, 2020, a breeding pair of mice housed in a split housed in a split cage system were found dead by a CARE technician. Upon review of room husbandry logs, the mice were transferred from the dirty right side of the cage to the clean left side of the cage on December 30, 2019 however food was not transferred, or the food provided ran out, resulting in starvation and death of both animals. It was not stated whether or not involved activities were PHS funded.

As a corrective measure, all Animal Care Technicians (ACTs) involved were individually spoken to and appropriate disciplinary actions were taken. All ACTs within the department will receive additional training on appropriate cage changing procedures as well as expectations with respect to daily animal health observations. Additionally, the Attending Veterinarian will meet with the CARE team to identify strategies to prevent these types of errors from recurring.

OLAW appreciates the prompt consideration of this matter by Brown University, which is consistent with the philosophy of institutional self-regulation. Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate steps have been taken to investigate this incident and to attempt to prevent recurrence. We appreciate being informed of this matter and find no cause for further action by the office.

Sincerely,

 (b) (6)

Nicole Lukovsky-Akhsanov, DVM, MPH, DACLAM
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

CC: IACUC contact



BROWN

January 17, 2020

Brent Morse, DVM
Director, Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Rockledge 1, Suite 360
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892

RE: Report of noncompliance, Assurance #A3284-01

Dear Dr. Morse:

The Brown University IACUC, through the Institutional Official (Jill C. Pipher, Ph.D.), is writing to provide OLAW with a final report of the following noncompliance with the *PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* ("PHS Policy"):

On December 5, 2019, Center for Animal Resources and Education (CARE) staff found 4 out of 5 mice dead within their home cage. It was observed that the water bottle had been filled but not properly aligned with the lixit port, thus preventing the mice from getting water. The 5th mouse was rehydrated but did not improve and was humanely euthanized later in the day.

On January 6, 2020, a breeding pair of mice in one side of a Thoren split cage were found dead by a CARE technician. Based on the findings and review of the room husbandry log, the mice were transferred from the dirty right side of the cage to the clean left side of the cage on the cage changing day (12/30/2019) but the food was not also transferred, or the food provided ran out, resulting in starvation and death.

The IACUC discussed the incidents of animal welfare concern and determined that they are Animal Care related and reportable under the NIH NOT-OD-05-034, "*Guidance on Prompt Reporting to OLAW under the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.*"

The following corrective action has taken, or will take, place:

- All Animal Care Technicians (ACTs) involved were individually spoken to and appropriate disciplinary actions were taken.
- All ACTs within the department will receive additional training on appropriate cage changing procedures as well as expectations with respect to daily animal health observations.

- The AV will meet with the CARE team to identify strategies to prevent these types of errors from occurring in the future.

Brown University is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW in this regard. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact [REDACTED] (b) (6)

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

Jill C. Pipher, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research, Institutional Official
Brown University

cc: Diane Hoffman-Kim, PhD, IACUC Chair [REDACTED] (b) (6)
Keri Godin, Director, Office of Research Integrity
Lara Helwig, DVM, Attending Veterinarian
AAALACi

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2020 2:49 PM
To: IACUC; OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Cc: Diane Hoffman-Kim; (b) (6) Keri Godin; Lara Helwig
Subject: RE: Report of non compliance - Assurance D16-00183

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

Best regards, Brent Morse

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

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From: (b) (6) On Behalf Of IACUC
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2020 12:53 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: accredit@aaalac.org; Diane Hoffman-Kim <Diane_Hoffman-Kim@brown.edu>; (b) (6)
(b) (6) Keri Godin <keri_godin@brown.edu>; Lara Helwig <lara_helwig@brown.edu>
Subject: Report of non compliance - Assurance D16-00183

Good afternoon,

Please find attached a recent incident of non compliance discussed by the Brown University IACUC during its January 10, 2020 convened meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions.

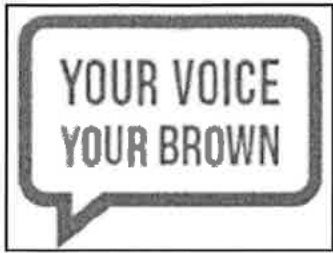
Sincerely,

(b) (6)



Need InfoEd Assistance? Sign up for the IACUC Protocol Workshop!

Personalized sessions offered every Tuesday from 2-4pm and every Friday from 9-11am at the South Street Landing.



Brown Ethics and Compliance Reporting System is an Anonymous and Confidential Hotline to report compliance issues and unethical activity. The hotline is managed by a third party and all reports are given careful attention. Reporting a concern will not jeopardize your employment and is a service to "Your Brown." Make "Your Voice" heard, call 877-318-9184 or [click here](#) to report.