



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

December 21, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3047-01 [OLAW Case 3C]

Serpil C. Erzurum, M.D.
Institutional Official
Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute
9500 Euclid Avenue, MC NB21
Cleveland, OH 44195

Dear Dr. Erzurum,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your November 4, 2020 letter responding to our October 28, 2020 request for additional information regarding allegations from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) against Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine. Specifically, we requested that you confirm that all social species are group or pair-housed whenever possible at the Cleveland Clinic. You responded that “the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine is committed to adhering to the highest standards of laboratory animal care and use and this includes group or pair-housing of all social species of laboratory animals whenever possible. This practice is described in an IACUC-approved standard operating procedure on environmental enrichment and social housing.”

OLAW appreciates your cooperation and assistance in this matter. The investigation of this matter by the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine was consistent with the PHS Policy and your commitments as stated in your Animal Welfare Assurance with this office. We appreciate your open communication with OLAW and find no need for further action by this office regarding this matter. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brent C. Morse -S

Digitally signed by Brent C.
Morse -S
Date: 2020.12.21 14:52:29 -05'00'

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

cc: IACUC Contact



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December 21, 2020

Dr. Alka Chandna
Vice President, Laboratory Investigations Cases
Laboratory Investigations Department
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
1536 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Dr. Chandna:

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) has completed its investigation regarding allegations by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) concerning the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine as contained in your May 7, 2020 letter to our Office. Please note that the PHS Assurance number cited in your letter was incorrect. Background information was reviewed, and interviews conducted. OLAW has determined that the results of the investigation did not confirm any of the allegations cited in your letter. In fact, for the allegation of improper CO2 euthanasia, the single incident cited was never brought to the attention of the institution even though appropriate methods are in place for anonymous reporting.

OLAW shares your concern for the welfare of laboratory animals. We find the animal care and use program at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine to be operating consistent with the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* and the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. We find no cause for further action by this office.

Sincerely,

Brent C. Morse -S

Digitally signed by Brent C.
Morse -S
Date: 2020.12.21 14:51:25 -05'00'

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

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FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 480-3387

October 28, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3047-01 [OLAW Case 3C]

Serpil C. Erzurum, M.D.
Institutional Official
Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute
9500 Euclid Avenue, MC NB21
Cleveland, OH 44195

Dear Dr. Erzurum,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your September 18, 2020 letter responding to our request for information regarding allegations from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) against Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine. It is understood that your institution has determined that no reportable non-compliances occurred. You provide detailed responses to the four numbered allegations below.

1. Failure to euthanize sick and injured animals in a timely fashion.

It is understood that determination of humane endpoints involves the PI, a veterinarian, and the IACUC and that the alleged incidents of not euthanizing sick or injured animals in a timely fashion focused mostly on mice that had either genetically-based or experimentally-induced disease phenotypes. It is further understood that these mice, as well as mice with spontaneous health concerns, are monitored daily and intervention, including supportive care and treatment or euthanasia, is performed in a timely fashion with the oversight of the veterinarians.

2. Failure to use appropriate methods to euthanize animals.

You described the use of CO2 euthanasia systems (Quieteks) for euthanasia of rodents followed by a secondary method to assure death. Personnel must be trained on a standard operating procedure which describes the appropriate methods for euthanizing rodents. The Quietek systems are locked so that the flow rate can't be adjusted. You determined that there was no evidence that an inappropriate method was used to euthanize animals or that a reportable incident took place. The single incident cited was never brought to the attention of the institution even though appropriate methods are in place for anonymous reporting.

3. Failure to ensure that personnel were adequately trained and qualified to work with animals.

You stated that completion of species-specific training and facility orientation is required for all animal care personnel as well as all research personnel who are listed on an IACUC protocol or an amendment prior to its approval. Completion of an online eLearning module on research animal care and use regulations is required before swipe card access to the animal facility is granted. The effectiveness of all training is evaluated by the IACUC. Post-approval monitoring by the IACUC Compliance Specialist provides assurance that personnel are competent and trained to perform the animal care and use described in their protocols.

4. Failure to maintain an adequate environment, housing, and management program to provide for animals' health and well-being.

You describe that mice and rats are group housed whenever possible unless animals prove to be incompatible or if scientific justification is provided in an IACUC protocol for single housing and is approved by the IACUC and that there are enrichment guidelines for all animal species reviewed by the Attending Veterinarian and the IACUC. In cases where morbidity or overcrowding of rodents is noted, reports are submitted to veterinary technicians for follow-up on the same day for appropriate treatment or euthanasia. Mortalities are noted in a room log and investigated by a veterinary technician. A description of your program for sanitation was also provided. Training for identifying health concerns includes on-the-job instruction in addition to an annual course on how to identify and report clinical or welfare problems in animals.

OLAW appreciates your cooperation and assistance in this matter. The investigation of this matter by the Cleveland Clinic was consistent with the PHS Policy and your commitments as stated in your Animal Welfare Assurance with this office. OLAW requests one point of clarification. In your response to allegation #4 you state that "Mice and rats are group housed whenever possible." Please confirm that all social species are group or pair-housed whenever possible at the Cleveland Clinic. Please provide this requested information by **November 20, 2020**. Please contact me if I can be of assistance at morseb@mail.nih.gov.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

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

cc: IACUC Contact



Serpil C. Erzurum, M.D.
Chair
Lerner Research Institute

September 18, 2020

Brent C. Morse, DVM
Director
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500
Bethesda, MD 20817

Dear Dr. Morse,

The Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine is committed to adhering to the highest standards of laboratory animal care and use. Compliance with our Animal Welfare Assurance and the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals is an integral aspect of our commitment and as you know, we report any identified non-compliant incidents to the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare with a description of the actions we have taken to prevent a reoccurrence. Thank you for the opportunity to address the allegations of noncompliance that you received from the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. The Cleveland Clinic's IACUC has discussed these allegations at several full committee meetings with input from the veterinarians and have determined that no reportable non-compliances occurred. We provide more detailed responses to the four numbered allegations below.

1. Failure to euthanize sick and injured animals in a timely fashion.

Determination of humane endpoints involves the PI, a BRU veterinarian, and the IACUC. The PI consults with a Biological Resources Unit (BRU) veterinarian during the development of an IACUC protocol. Endpoints are established with consideration to the scientific aims and objectives, the animal model and species, and institutional policies. Endpoints include assessment criteria, a description of the frequency of monitoring the animal's condition, the person(s) responsible for monitoring, and action plans for various conditions. The IACUC evaluates the appropriateness of the proposed humane endpoints during protocol review.

Research personnel must describe in their IACUC protocol how they will monitor their animals for pain and distress. BRU husbandry personnel check every animal daily and report any concerns about pain or distress to veterinary services. After surgical procedures on rodents, research personnel document the procedure in a laboratory notebook. Research personnel monitor rodents and provide post-operative treatments. Research personnel also place "Post-operative treatment" cage cards and document the name and date of the procedure and date and initial the card whenever post-operative analgesia is administered. Veterinary technicians check every post-op animal daily for signs of pain or distress and confirm that animals have received appropriate analgesics. Investigators must provide a description of potential adverse consequences of the procedures that are included in their IACUC protocol and a description of any phenotypic or clinical abnormality that might be encountered in the course of an experiment. They must also describe how they will monitor the animals for these complications and provide a plan for a course of action when they are encountered. If any phenotypic

or clinical abnormalities or complications associated with procedures arise that were not anticipated or described in the protocol, investigators discuss the situation with a BRU veterinarian and typically amend their IACUC protocol or provide an update in their IACUC protocol annual renewal.

The alleged incidents of not euthanizing sick or injured animals in a timely fashion focused mostly on mice that had either genetically-based or experimentally-induced disease phenotypes. These mice, as well as mice with spontaneous health concerns, are monitored daily and intervention, including supportive care and treatment or euthanasia, is always performed in a timely fashion with the oversight of the BRU veterinarians.

2. Failure to use appropriate methods to euthanize animals.

Rodents are euthanized in designated locations throughout all the animal facilities by carbon dioxide (CO₂) asphyxiation followed by a secondary method to assure death. Most CO₂ euthanasia systems (Quieteks) receive CO₂ from building supply tanks. These tanks are monitored regularly by LRI personnel and notification is sent to the entire Lerner Research Institute, including BRU personnel, if there is a problem with the CO₂. BRU personnel regularly check portable CO₂ tanks to ensure adequate CO₂ levels during facility inspections. Quietek CO₂ Systems are calibrated annually. The systems are locked so that the flow rate can't be adjusted. Instructions are posted next to each Quietek machine.

The methods used to confirm death of an animal must be described and approved by the Clinic's IACUC. In many cases, this is done by examining the animal for cessation of respirations and heart beats, absence of voluntary movements, pallor, and lack of responsiveness to noxious stimuli (e.g. toe pinch).

Completion of species-specific training and facility orientation is provided by the BRU Education Specialist and is required for all animal care personnel and for all research personnel on an IACUC protocol or an amendment prior to its approval. As part of this training, every individual who will work with rodents performs euthanasia by CO₂ asphyxiation using the Quietek system to demonstrate procedural competency to the BRU Education Specialist. The Cleveland Clinic has a standard operating procedure, BRU-002-09G EUTHANASIA, which describes the appropriate methods for euthanizing rodents.

There is no evidence that an inappropriate method was ever used to euthanize animals. The single incident included in the PETA allegations was never brought to the attention of a veterinarian, the IACUC, or any members of the animal care management team. All current animal care personnel have been reminded of the importance of reporting any concerns in a timely fashion and appropriate methods are in place for anonymous reporting to take place. None of the individuals who participated in the video-recorded discussion about the alleged incident actually witnessed the euthanasia or fully understood what actually took place. One technician felt that a language barrier complicated a clear understanding of the situation. Because the discussion and incident took place so long ago, no one involved can now remember details related to the discussion, including who the researcher was or what the researcher said about the euthanasia. There is no evidence that mice went through a complete cycle of carbon dioxide exposure without being asphyxiated. The exact nature of the incident is uncertain. It appears that a researcher attempted to perform euthanasia of mice in their home cage. This was and continues to be a routine and appropriate approach at the Cleveland Clinic. We use a Quietek system to ensure appropriate carbon dioxide fill rates. This system uses a lid that is

placed on top of a single cage. These cages typically have very small openings (air grommets) for individual ventilation of the cages when they are housing mice on ventilated racks. We have found that this doesn't impact their use with the Quietek system and doesn't result in significant leaking of carbon dioxide from the cage. The Quietek systems are calibrated annually and locked so the flow rate can't be adjusted by researchers or animal facility technicians. Quieteks use carbon dioxide that is supplied to the entire building and there has never been a time when it ran out and was empty. At the time of this alleged incident, the Quietek systems provided carbon dioxide for approximately 6 minutes. (The flow rates of the systems have recently been adjusted upwards as described in the most recent AVMA Euthanasia Guidelines). Mice always lost consciousness and died much sooner than 6 minutes with the flow rates used in the past. To our knowledge, no researchers or animal care personnel ever reported that they had to run the cycle a second time in order to euthanize mice. Further, even if the Quietek system had been run a second time by the researcher involved in this incident, this does not inform us about how long the animal(s) was conscious or how long it was alive after first being exposed to carbon dioxide. It remains unknown why the researcher decided that they needed to run the Quietek through a second cycle. There is no evidence that an inappropriate method was used to euthanize animals or that a reportable incident took place.

3. Failure to ensure that personnel were adequately trained and qualified to work with animals.

Completion of species-specific training and facility orientation is provided by the BRU Education Specialist and is required for all animal care personnel as well as all research personnel who are listed on an IACUC protocol or an amendment prior to its approval. Completion of an online eLearning module on research animal care and use regulations is required before swipe card access to the animal facility is granted. Animal care personnel also complete extensive training for all their job duties and tasks and are under close supervision during their training period. Supervisory personnel check and ensure the proper performance of daily work by animal care personnel. The effectiveness of all training and eLearning modules are discussed and evaluated by the IACUC during its semi-annual program evaluation and performance of animal care personnel is evaluated by program management on an ongoing basis.

Investigators must describe their prior experience and training in their IACUC protocol for each experimental procedure that they propose to perform. They may also propose a plan for personnel to obtain sufficient training. The IACUC evaluates the training and experience of personnel during protocol review and if deemed necessary, may require specific training by a BRU veterinarian or the BRU Education Specialist or an experienced lab member. Post-approval monitoring by the IACUC Compliance Specialist provides assurance that personnel are competent and trained to perform the animal care and use described in their protocols.

4. Failure to maintain an adequate environment, housing, and management program to provide for animals' health and well-being.

The Guide is used to verify adequacy of space provided for all research animal species at the Clinic. Animals are assessed daily by husbandry and veterinary technicians and regularly by BRU Supervisors, Managers, and Veterinarians. If there are any concerns regarding an animal's ability to assume normal postures, turn around, or ambulate normally, reassignment will be made to a cage or pen that better accommodates the animal.

Most of the animal housing rooms are made of cinder block walls and have insulated room doors that dampen noise from outside the rooms and facilities. When construction and facility repairs are performed, all efforts are taken to minimize noise and vibrations that might impact the animals.

Mice and rats are group housed whenever possible. All mice except hairless mice are given nestlets and/or paper towels at each cage change to encourage nesting behaviors. Hairless mice are given shredded paper. Most mice receive plastic houses/tubes. We attempt to house all animals with conspecifics unless particular individual animals prove to be incompatible or if scientific justification is provided in an IACUC protocol for single housing and is approved by the IACUC. In general, single housing occurs when there are compatibility issues.

Enrichment guidelines for all animal species at the Cleveland Clinic are reviewed by the Attending Veterinarian and IACUC Committee no less than annually to ensure that they are current with actual practice and current with enrichment ideas from outside the Clinic. BRU standard operating procedures (SOP's) that describe social housing requirements for social species are reviewed annually by the Attending Veterinarian.

Soiled bedding from washable/reusable rodent cages is collected into portable plastic dumpsters in the dirty side of cage wash. Disposable cages containing soiled bedding are collected in portable dumpsters at the exit of the barrier mouse facility. Portable dumpsters are taken to BRU dock areas and emptied into larger dumpsters. The larger, commercial dumpsters are emptied on a regular basis by a local waste disposal company. Floors, walls and counters are cleaned regularly and adequacy of sanitation practices are validated through the use of ATPase monitoring devices.

All animals are observed daily by a BRU Animal Husbandry Technician. Husbandry technicians also look for the presence of adequate food and water and to ensure that cages are not excessively soiled. During weekdays, most animals are also observed daily by a Veterinary Technician. On weekends, all post-op animals and animals with any health concerns are observed at least once by a Veterinary Technician. Training for identifying health concerns includes on-the-job instruction by experienced husbandry technicians, veterinary technicians, veterinarians, or the BRU Education Specialist. An annual course is also presented to the entire BRU by a BRU veterinarian or by the BRU Education Specialist on how to identify and report clinical or welfare problems in animals.

For rodents, when morbidity or overcrowding is noted, a report is generated (typically by a BRU Husbandry Technician). The report is used to document the signalment and location of the animal and the concern. Reports are submitted to veterinary technicians for follow-up on the same day. A veterinary technician examines cases of morbidity, establishes a plan and a differential diagnosis, and consults with laboratory personnel and a BRU veterinarian when appropriate before implementing treatment or euthanasia. Mortalities are noted in a room log and investigated by a veterinary technician.

In cases of overcrowding, the investigator is notified via e-mail of the protocol number, cage location, a description of the overcrowding situation, and a deadline for correction. If the overcrowding situation was resolved immediately by Veterinary Services, the investigator is notified of the new cage locations for the animals. When policies are modified, researchers and animal care personnel are notified.

A member of Veterinary Services is in-house every day (including weekends) to deal with issues of morbidity and mortality. Veterinarians are on-call 24 hours a day.

Husbandry technicians communicate with Veterinary Services by generating a morbidity or colony management report or by calling (Clinic-owned iPhones assigned to each Veterinary Technician and Veterinarian) or paging a member of Veterinary Services. Veterinary Technicians will consult with a BRU Veterinarian directly when necessary. Veterinary Technicians communicate with researchers by telephone and email as frequently as necessary to effectively manage animal care.

A member of Veterinary Services will examine ill animals and triage the situation. For common clinical issues concerning rodents, a veterinary technician will devise a plan of action, mindful of the animal protocol, and e-mail the researcher (copying the veterinarians). The veterinary technician communicates the clinical concerns, differential diagnoses, and potential course of actions to the researcher by email or phone call. The veterinary technician typically recommends a plan involving either enhanced monitoring, treatment, or euthanasia and asks the researcher to respond with any questions or concerns or to propose an alternative plan. If there is any uncertainty as to how to proceed with a morbidity report, the veterinary technician will consult with a BRU Veterinarian for guidance.

All of these practices are described in IACUC-approved standard operating procedures and guidelines including ones that address water quality, animal feed and handling, mouse care, veterinary care, rodent caging density, morbidity/mortality reporting, rodent abs12 operations, animal carcass and waste disposal, environmental enrichment and social housing.

Thank you again for this opportunity to respond to the allegations and please contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Serpil C. Erzurum, M.D.
Institutional Official
Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute

OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 8:10 AM
To: (b) (6)
Subject: RE: OLAW Case A3047-3C

Thank you for providing this response (b) (6) We will review the contents and send an official reply to your institution soon.

Best regards, Brent Morse

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

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:43 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: accredit@AAALAC.org
Subject: OLAW Case A3047-3C

Dear Dr. Morse:

Please find attached the Cleveland Clinic response to the PETA allegations (OLAW Case A3047-3C).

Please acknowledge receipt.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

Cleveland Clinic is currently ranked as one of the nation's top hospitals by *U.S. News & World Report* (2020-2021). Visit us online at <http://www.clevelandclinic.org> for a complete listing of our services, staff and locations. Confidentiality

Note: This message is intended for use only by the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please contact the sender immediately and destroy the material in its entirety, whether electronic or hard copy. Thank you.



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FOR EXPRESS MAIL:

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
6700B Rockledge Drive, Suite 2500
Bethesda, Maryland 20817
Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Facsimile: (301) 480-3387

August 19, 2020

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3047-01 [OLAW Case 3C]

Serpil C. Erzurum, M.D.
Institutional Official
Cleveland Clinic Lerner Research Institute
9500 Euclid Avenue, MC NB21
Cleveland, OH 44195

Dear Dr. Erzurum,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) has received from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) allegations of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine as outlined in the attached document. It is possible that such occurrences should have been reported directly to our office as required by the PHS Policy and per your commitment to do so in your Animal Welfare Assurance.

Specifically, we request information regarding the four numbered allegations in the letter:

1. Failure to euthanize sick and injured animals in a timely fashion;
2. Failure to use appropriate methods to euthanize animals;
3. Failure to ensure that personnel were adequately trained and qualified to work with animals, and;
4. Failure to maintain an adequate environment, housing, and management program to provide for animals' health and well-being.

Please instruct the IACUC, avoiding any conflict of interest, to send a report, signed by you as the Institutional Official, to the following OLAW email inbox: OLAWdco@od.nih.gov and provide a description of the occurrences and all corrective/preventive actions. Please have them consider if any of the occurrences represented programmatic failures. You are welcome to provide summaries of any institutional policies, SOPs, etc. that address these alleged failures. If other reportable non-compliances have occurred during this period, please also include them with the report if OLAW has not already been notified.

We appreciate your cooperation and ask that you please provide the requested information by **September 30, 2020**. Please contact me if I can be of assistance at morseb@mail.nih.gov.

Sincerely,

Brent C. Morse -S Digitally signed by Brent C. Morse -S
Date: 2020.08.19 09:50:24 -04'00'

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

cc: IACUC Contact

~~A3145-2F~~
A3047-3C

Walker, Keri (NIH/OD) [C]

From: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 7:35 AM
To: Walker, Keri (NIH/OD) [C]
Subject: FW: PETA complaint regarding the laboratories of the Cleveland Clinic Lerner COM A3145
Attachments: CCLCM_Complaint to OLAW, May 7, 2020.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Keri

Please use this email and the attached .pdf file to open a new case and put in my mailbox. The .pdf is 45 pages.
Thanks

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

Please note that this message and any of its attachments are intended for the named recipient(s) only and may contain confidential, protected or privileged information that should not be distributed to unauthorized individuals. If you have received this message in error, please contact the sender.

From: Dr. Alka Chandna <AlkaC@peta.org>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2020 5:02 PM
To: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E] <morseb@mail.nih.gov>
Subject: RE: Concerns from PETA regarding treatment of animals in the laboratories of the Cleveland Clinic:

Good afternoon, Dr. Morse,

Thank you very much for your kind acknowledgment and thanks also for investigating our concerns. We appreciate it.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Alka Chandna

From: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E] <morseb@mail.nih.gov>
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2020 1:54 PM
To: Dr. Alka Chandna <AlkaC@peta.org>
Subject: RE: Concerns from PETA regarding treatment of animals in the laboratories of the Cleveland Clinic:

Good afternoon Dr. Chandna,

OLAW acknowledges receipt of your May 7, 2020 letter regarding the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine. We will investigate the allegations and take any appropriate actions.

Sincerely, 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: Dr. Alka Chandna <AlkaC@peta.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 8:00 AM
To: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E] <morseb@mail.nih.gov>
Subject: Concerns from PETA regarding treatment of animals in the laboratories of the Cleveland Clinic:

Dear Dr. Morse,

I hope this correspondence finds you well. Please find attached a formal complaint from PETA, summarizing our concerns regarding the treatment of animals in the laboratories of the Cleveland Clinic. As you will see, the concerns are rooted in documentation secured by a PETA investigator who worked at Cleveland Clinic's Lerner College of Medicine.

Thank you for your time.

With kindest regards,

Alka Chandna

Alka Chandna, Ph.D.
Vice President
Laboratory Investigations Cases
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
1536 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

The more we learn of the true nature of non-human animals, especially those with complex brains and corresponding complex social behavior, the more ethical concerns are raised regarding their use in the service of man -- whether this be in entertainment, as "pets," for food, in research laboratories, or any of the other uses to which we subject them. -- Dr. Jane Goodall

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]
Sent: Sunday, May 10, 2020 1:54 PM
To: Dr. Alka Chandna
Subject: RE: Concerns from PETA regarding treatment of animals in the laboratories of the Cleveland Clinic:

Good afternoon Dr. Chandna,

OLAW acknowledges receipt of your May 7, 2020 letter regarding the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine. We will investigate the allegations and take any appropriate actions.

Sincerely, 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: Dr. Alka Chandna <AlkaC@peta.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 8:00 AM
To: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E] <morseb@mail.nih.gov>
Subject: Concerns from PETA regarding treatment of animals in the laboratories of the Cleveland Clinic:

Dear Dr. Morse,

I hope this correspondence finds you well. Please find attached a formal complaint from PETA, summarizing our concerns regarding the treatment of animals in the laboratories of the Cleveland Clinic. As you will see, the concerns are rooted in documentation secured by a PETA investigator who worked at Cleveland Clinic's Lerner College of Medicine.

Thank you for your time.

With kindest regards,

Alka Chandna

Alka Chandna, Ph.D.
Vice President
Laboratory Investigations Cases
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
1536 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

The more we learn of the true nature of non-human animals, especially those with complex brains and corresponding complex social behavior, the more ethical concerns are raised regarding their use in the service of man -- whether this be in entertainment, as "pets," for food, in research laboratories, or any of the other uses to which we subject them. – Dr. Jane Goodall

Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]

From: (b) (6), (b) (3) (A)
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 11:43 AM
To: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E]
Subject: FW: Phone call

Hi Dr. Morse:

Thanks for your prompt response. Please see Dr. Erzurum's email below. If you would like to provide a phone number, I will forward that to her. She will expect your call at 3 pm. Please let me know if you need further information

Thank you!

(b) (6), (b) (3) (A)

From: Erzurum, M.D., Serpil
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 10:48 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (3) (A)
Subject: Re: Phone call

Thanks (b) (6),
My number is (b) (6), (b) (3) (A)

Can you ask their number in case of a problem?
(b) (6), (b) (3) (A) will also clear my calendar for this call at 3 pm EST today

-S

From: (b) (6), (b) (3) (A)
Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020 at 10:33 AM
To: "Erzurum, M.D., Serpil" <ERZURUS@ccf.org>
Subject: FW: Phone call

Please see below from Dr. Morse.

Thanks,

(b) (6),
(b) (3) (A)

From: Morse, Brent (NIH/OD) [E] [mailto:morseb@mail.nih.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 07, 2020 10:27 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (3) (A)
Subject: [EXT] RE: Phone call

Hello (b) (6), (b) (3) (A)

Joan Ward forwarded your request for a call with Dr. Erzurum today. I would be happy to call him this afternoon after 3:00 pm. Can you please confirm this with him and provide his preferred phone number? Thank you.

Sincerely, 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 [REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (3) (A)
Sent: Thursday, May 7, 2020 8:50 AM
To: Ward, Joan (NIH/OD) [E] <wardjoa@od.nih.gov>
Subject: Phone call

Good morning Joan:

I hope you are well. Our IO, Dr. Serpil Erzurum, would like to speak with Dr. Wolff or Dr. Morse today. Would you please tell me how to arrange for that? I wasn't sure about the "work from home" situation there. As always, thank you for your help.

Be safe and stay well!

[REDACTED] (b) (6), (b) (3) (A)
Cleveland Clinic IACUC

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