



Inspection Report

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

Customer ID: 9192

Certificate: 93-R-0433

Site: 001

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

ONE SHIELDS AVE

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

DAVIS, CA 95616

Date: Nov-05-2009

2.31 (d) (1) (i)

INSTITUTIONAL ANIMAL CARE AND USE COMMITTEE (IACUC).

Sec. 2.31 Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).(d) IACUC review of activities involving animals. (1) In order to approve proposed activities or proposed significant changes in ongoing activities, the IACUC shall conduct a review of those components of the activities related to the care and use of animals and determine that the proposed activities are in accordance with this subchapter unless acceptable justification for a departure is presented in writing. Further, the IACUC shall determine that the proposed activities or significant changes in ongoing activities meet the following requirements:

(i) Procedures involving animals will avoid or minimize discomfort, distress, and pain to the animals.

Animal 34313 had an extensive history of medical issues including gastrointestinal (GI) problems, numerous injuries, and self-injurious behaviors (SIB), and yet it was placed on four studies before being euthanized. The animal was placed on the fourth study despite the progressive worsening of medical and behavioral problems that lead to unnecessary discomfort, distress and pain to that animal.

The animal was sedated 15 times between the third and fourth studies, primarily for treatment of trauma. Vomiting was reported 10 times between the third and fourth studies. Veterinary staff questioned the suitability of the animal for study on 11/5/07, noting moderate hair loss of the arms and legs with a few scars they suspected were caused by biting or hair picking, as well as a history of gastritis. Between that date and the date the animal was placed on a fourth study on 2/11/08, the medical record noted two episodes of vomiting, a suspected hole in the trachea, and self injurious behavior that prompted the staff to sedate the animal for examination due to blood in the cage. On 1/30/08 staff found excessive blood in cage. The 7.2 kilogram animal was sedated and found to have an approximately one centimeter laceration to the penis. The facility began pharmacologic intervention of the SIB on 2/7/08, four days prior to starting the fourth study. The animal continued the SIB over the course of the study. The animal was sedated an additional 16 times between the beginning of the fourth study on 2/11/08 and 8/13/08, primarily for study purposes. On 8/8/08 staff noted that the "Monkey appears to become agitated during observations. Agitation appears to lead to increase masturbatory behavior thus causing the bleeding observed." Pharmacologic treatment was changed after this entry and on 8/13/08 the bleeding reoccurred. The animal was sedated, a one centimeter laceration of the penis was sutured, and the animal's hands were bandaged to keep it from further self-mutilation. The animal removed one of the bandages and bleeding at the site continued to be noted in the record intermittently. The facility decided

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to euthanize the animal a few days after the end of the fourth study. According to the daily observations, the condition of the animal had not worsened just prior to euthanasia and appeared to be in similar condition at the end of the study as it was at the beginning of the study.

Placing this animal in the fourth study with its history of progressively worsening medical and behavioral conditions caused it unnecessary discomfort, distress, and pain. A system should be in place to ensure that animals are appropriately assessed for suitability for study. Animals with chronic and significant medical and/or behavioral conditions are not suitable subjects for study.

2.33 (b) (3)

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE.

UC Davis complaint

Sec. 2.33 Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care. (b) Each research facility shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include: (3) Daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being; Provided, however, That daily observation of animals may be accomplished by someone other than the attending veterinarian; and Provided, further, That a mechanism of direct and frequent communication is required so that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior, and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian.

Staff at the facility failed to provide adequate records of daily observation of animal 34313 in order to assess the health and well-being of that animal. An entry in the animal's medical record documenting the presence of frank blood in emesis dated 2/22/2006 stated that staff reports that animal vomits frequently but not normally bloody however there had been no entries in the record since 1/19/2006 and vomiting was last documented in the record on 8/21/2005. There were no previous episodes of blood in the vomitus noted, however the above entry implies that there were previous incidences of bloody vomiting. The animal was worked up extensively for vomiting on March 15, 2006, including endoscopy and biopsy, although according to the recorded daily observations only the one episode of vomiting noted above had occurred between 8/22/05 and 3/15/06. It is unlikely that the animal would have received this extensive work up for one episode of bloody vomiting. The animal was placed on the third study on 12/12/05. If the animal had a history of vomiting frequently that was not communicated to the veterinary staff as the above entry implies, treatment of the condition was delayed. Additionally, the animal may not have been a suitable subject for the third study.

While anesthetized on March 15, 2006 for the endoscopy the medical record states that the animal was observed to have a fracture of one digit of the left foot that required amputation as well as a laceration of another digit that required sutures. These injuries were not documented by staff prior to the surgery and were significant injuries requiring amputation and sutures.

On several occasions staff reported the presence of vomiting but the veterinary staff was unable to assess the severity of the vomiting because cages had been cleaned before they were able to examine the vomitus in the cage. The mechanism used by the facility to document conditions such as vomiting and diarrhea did not allow staff members to describe these conditions in any way. Thus the veterinary staff

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was unable to assess any potentially diagnostic characteristics of the vomitus because they arrived on the scene after cage cleaning and there were no descriptive written records.

Daily observations of all animals to assess their well-being, appropriate documentation of those observations, and direct and frequent communication with the attending veterinarian regarding health issues are necessary to ensure that the animals at the facility receive timely and adequate veterinary care. Due to the large number of animals housed at this facility accurate written daily observations are essential to ensure that the information needed to diagnose and treat animals is provided to the veterinary staff.

A system should be in place to ensure that animal caretakers provide timely and accurate information regarding animal health to the attending veterinarian so that the animals may receive appropriate treatment.

AN EXIT BRIEFING WAS CONDUCTED WITH THE REGISTRANT

Location: 10

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