



Altasciences Preclinical Seattle, LLC  
6605 Merrill Creek Parkway  
Everett, WA 98203-5898

## **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

We believe that you violated the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. § 2131 et seq.) (AWA), as described below.

### **Date of Alleged Violation: July 14, 2021**

**9 C.F.R. § 2.32(c)(1)(iii) Personnel Qualifications.** Training and instruction of personnel must include guidance in at least the proper pre-procedural and post-procedural care of animals.

You failed to properly train and instruct personnel on the proper pre-procedural and post-procedural care for various species of animals used by the facility.

Four female cynomolgus macaques were given an improper dose of a test article due to a technician error. Due to the potential adverse effects of the high dose, veterinary staff elected to euthanize the four animals to prevent unnecessary pain and discomfort.

### **Date of Alleged Violation: July 14, 2021**

**9 C.F.R. § 2.38(f)(1) Miscellaneous. Handling.** Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.

You failed to handle animals as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavior stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.

A two-year-old, male cynomolgus macaque sustained an arm fracture during nasogastric dosing of the test article. On March 5, 2021, the fracture occurred while the animal was positioned in the procedure cage. The animal was non-sedated and an employee manually restrained it by grasping the macaque by the right forearm to position the animal. During the physical restraint, the animal struggled resulting in a mid-diaphyseal fracture of the radius and ulna.



**Date of Alleged Violation: July 14, 2021**

**9 C.F.R. § 3.125(a)** Facilities, general. The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The indoor and outdoor housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

You failed to provide structurally sound enclosures that protect the animals housed within from injury.

The flooring in eight pig enclosures housing adult domestic pigs was determined to be structurally unsafe. Each enclosure held one pig. The metal grates in multiple enclosures were observed to be displaced in the mornings and repositioned without reporting as a maintenance problem. On November 13, 2020, the facility technicians informed the attending veterinarian that the pigs would lift the grate edges with their snout and lift the metal grates off the floor.

**Date of Alleged Violation: November 16, 2021**

**9 C.F.R. § 2.33(b)(2)** Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care. Each research facility shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include the use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries, and the availability of emergency, weekend, and holiday care.

You failed to establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care including the use of appropriate methods of prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries. APHIS officials observed:

- A seven-month-old male tricolor Beagle was observed with its ribs, lumbar vertebrae, and pelvic bones easily visible with evidence of bony prominences and an obvious waist. There was brown loose watery stool present in the enclosure. A review of the records indicated that the dog arrived with a body condition score of 2.5/5 and weight of 7.74 kg. Based on weekly weigh-ins, there was a consistent decline in weight.

- Two adult Yorkshire pigs were observed with overgrown hooves. Due to a lack of hoof trimming, a number of pigs had hooves that were inward turning.

**Date of Alleged Violation: September 28, 2023**

**9 C.F.R. § 2.38(f)(1)** Miscellaneous. Handling. Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause



trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.

You failed to handle animals in a manner that does not cause trauma, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort as required.

On May 16, 2023, an employee was observed tossing a sedated male cynomolgus macaque lightly in the air and then catching it in her arms. In one of the tosses, the animal was not caught and fell to the floor. Non-bleeding abrasions were noted on the animal's chin after the incident.

The civil penalty amount is \$5,000 to resolve the alleged violation(s) above.

By paying the civil penalty, you are entering into this Settlement Agreement and:

1. Neither admitting nor denying the alleged violation(s) described above,
2. Agreeing to waive your right to a hearing, and
3. Agreeing to waive any action against USDA under the Equal Access to Justice Act of 1980 (5 U.S.C. § 504 et seq.) for fees and other expenses incurred in connection with this/these alleged violation(s) or any action against any USDA employee in their individual capacity.