



Inspection Report

University of Minnesota
RESEARCH ANIMAL RESOURCES
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55455

Customer ID: **547**
Certificate: **41-R-0005**
Site: 001
MINNEAPOLIS SITE

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION
Date: 04-SEP-2024

2.32(a) Critical

Personnel qualifications.

During inspection the following personnel qualification issues were found:

- On 5 May 2024 a lab self-reported an incident to the IACUC committee regarding a sheep on an IACUC approved activity. On 27 April 2024 a miscommunication between the veterinarian and the veterinary technician resulted in a sheep being under-dosed pain medication prescribed by the veterinarian. Corrective action included retraining of staff that administer pain medication on proper dosing and recording of medications.
- On 27 September 2023 a lab self-reported an incident to the IACUC committee regarding a sheep on an IACUC approved activity involving a painful procedure where multimodal pain medication would be used to minimize pain. Medication doses were not given during post-operative recovery after transferring care of the animal from veterinary staff to laboratory staff. On 23 September 2023 one pain medication dose was not administered and on 23 September and 24 September 2023 an antibiotic was not administered. Without receiving the designated pain medication and antibiotic medication there is a concern of the animal experiencing pain from the procedure. The animal was examined by a veterinarian after the incident was reported and appeared to be within normal limits, no signs of pain or distress were observed. Corrective action included student personnel involved receiving additional training regarding the transfer of care from veterinary staff post-operatively to laboratory staff.
- On 3 April 2023 a lab self-reported an incident to the IACUC committee involving 3 nonhuman primates on a IACUC approved activity that allowed fluid restriction to promote motivation for behavioral tasks. The amount of water obtained during training sessions and in the primary enclosure is recorded by laboratory staff each day. The fluid logs indicated that the minimum fluid allotment was not received by animal one on 4 dates, by animal two on 2 dates, and by animal three on 1 date. In addition, the laboratory did not contact veterinary staff prior to initiating a new level of fluid restriction as described in the protocol. Veterinary staff noted that animal one had a decreased appetite, which improved with unrestricted fluid and remaining on unrestricted fluid until cleared by veterinary staff. Animals two and three did not have any observed health issues. Corrective action included retraining staff to ensure the minimum amount of water is given every day, filling out water intake logs and submitting to the IACUC for animals on water restriction.
- On 10 March 2023 during IACUC review of animal facilities it was found that 6 hamsters used for an IACUC approved activity on 10 February 2023 were anesthetized for a procedure using an expired anesthetic. Laboratory staff indicated on records that no unusual effects on the hamsters were noted, and they recovered from the procedure normally. Corrective and preventative measures included disposal and replacement of the expired anesthetic and implementing measures to ensure that expired drugs are not used in the future.

Prepared By: DEBRA SIME
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:
10-SEP-2024

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

Received by Title: Attending Veterinarian

Date:
10-SEP-2024



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The facility was unable to ensure that all personnel involved in the care, treatment and use of the above documented animals were qualified to fulfill their responsibilities and be familiar with the procedures for these IACUC approved activities, resulting in negative impact on the health and wellbeing of these animals. Develop a program of training and instruction to all scientists and all personnel involved with research activities that ensures that all personnel and members of research teams are trained and qualified to perform their duties and to follow procedures in IACUC approved activities so that research animals receive proper care.

All the incidents documented above were investigated by the IACUC. Corrective measures had been implemented prior to inspection, to remain corrected from 10 September 2024 forward.

2.38(f)(1) Critical

Miscellaneous.

During inspection the following handling issues were found:

- On 28 February 2024 a self-reported incident to the IACUC committee involving a nonhuman primate on a IACUC approved activity. On 14 February 2024 a nonhuman primate escaped during a training session to the box chair. The nonhuman primate sustained a small contusion above the left eye during the recapture process. The nonhuman primate was provided with adequate veterinary care for the contusion. Corrective action included retraining staff on box chair procedures for smaller animals.
- On 23 August 2023 a self-reported incident to the IACUC committee involving a nonhuman primate on a IACUC approved activity. On 14 August 2023 a nonhuman primate escaped their primary enclosure during a routine husbandry bank change. The staff member used a stool to transfer the nonhuman primate to a top bank. During the process, the nonhuman primate jumped from the jump box to the cage, then back into the jump box, catching the staff member off guard and causing the box to fall and the nonhuman primate to escape. During the escape the nonhuman primate climbed on top of another enclosure, which allowed its digits to enter another animal's primary enclosure, resulting in a toe injury which required subsequent amputation of the toe during treatment of the injury. Corrective actions included using caging banks that allow for side-to-side jumping eliminating the need for a jump transfer box, training staff on the use of lifts at the facility, and investing in additional equipment to allow for shifting without jump transfer boxes.
- On 31 March 2023 a lab self-reported an incident to the IACUC committee involving a nonhuman primate on a IACUC approved activity. On 27 March 2023 a nonhuman primate escaped during the yoking process to move the nonhuman primate into the box chair. While the nonhuman primate was loose in the lab area, a beaker was broken, and the nonhuman primate placed a piece of glass in its mouth resulting in two cuts within the mouth. Upon recapture the nonhuman primate was examined and provided adequate veterinary care. Corrective action included retraining staff on yoking and box chair operations, and preventing and handling animal escapes. All glassware was removed and replaced with plastic in the lab areas.

The facility was unable to ensure that all personnel involved in the handling and use of the above document animals were able to handle animals in a manner to prevent physical harm. Develop a program of training and instruction to all scientists and all personnel involved with research activities that ensures that all personnel and members of research teams handle animals as carefully as possible and in a manner that does not cause behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort.

Prepared By: DEBRA SIME
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

Date:
10-SEP-2024

Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Received by Title: Attending Veterinarian

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10-SEP-2024



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All the incidents documented above were investigated by the IACUC. Corrective measures had been implemented prior to inspection, to remain corrected from 10 September 2024 forward.

3.83 Critical

Watering.

On 1 November 2023 there was a self-reported incident to the IACUC committee involving 3 nonhuman primates on a IACUC approved activity. On 24 October 2023 3 nonhuman primates were moved back into their original housing room after room repair. On 27 October 2023 the animals were reported to veterinary staff for low or no appetite for multiple days. Upon further investigation it was discovered that the water valve had been shut off to their bank, presumably since the bank was moved back into the room on 24 October 2023. The nonhuman primate SOP is to check the fixtures for appropriate function/water availability twice daily. The individual responsible during this period signed off that it had been done. Animals were without access to water from mid-morning 24 October 2023 to the morning of 27 October 2023. Veterinary staff provided water in slow increments, until full access could be granted, and prophylactic medication to prevent bloat as treatment. Animals were assessed by veterinary staff on 27 October and 30 October 2023 with no other obvious clinical side effects from lack of water. Corrective action included discussing with the person signing off on availability of water the gravity of the error, and not allowing them to work with animals at the facility any longer. Lack of potable water in sufficient quantity to nonhuman primates can negatively impact their health and well-being by resulting in dehydration, and possibly death. Ensure potable water is provided in sufficient quantity to every non-human primate housed at the facility, as often as necessary, to ensure their health and well-being.

The incident documented above was investigated by the IACUC. Corrective measures had been implemented prior to inspection, to remain corrected from 10 September 2024 forward.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with Facility Representatives.

End of report.

Prepared By: DEBRA SIME
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Date:
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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
547	41-R-0005	001	MINNEAPOLIS SITE	04-SEP-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000006	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	RHESUS MACAQUE
000000	<i>Mesocricetus auratus</i>	SYRIAN / GOLDEN HAMSTER
000000	<i>Ovis aries aries</i>	SHEEP INCLUDING ALL DOMESTIC BREEDS
000006	Total	