



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

September 12, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance  
#A3456-01 [OLAW Case 10H]  
UMN IACUC # 37487A

Dr. Frances Lawrenz  
Interim Vice President for Research  
Institutional Official  
University of Minnesota  
101 Pleasant St., SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Dear Dr. Lawrenz,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your September 7, 2022 letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Minnesota. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that three mice died after being weaned. The declining health of the animals was noted on the cage card but was not reported to the veterinary staff in accordance with institutional policy. Death may have been due to an inability to reach food/water or inability to effectively thermoregulate.

The corrective action consisted of the Principal Investigator assuring the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) that any sickly or unusually small mice will be noted in a health report and brought to the attention of the veterinary staff promptly. Animal health concerns will be brought to the attention of the veterinary staff and the laboratory will continue to be subjected to annual post approval monitoring by the IACUC.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that measures have been implemented to reduce the likelihood of a recurrence of this problem. OLAW concurs with the actions taken by the IACUC to comply with the PHS Policy.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Axel Wolff, M.S., D.V.M.  
Deputy Director  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

CC: IACUC Chair

A3456-10H

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

*Twin Cities Campus*

*Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)*

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September 7, 2022

TO: Axel Wolff, DVM  
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare  
National Institutes of Health  
RKL1, Suite 360, MSC 7982  
6705 Rockledge Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

RE: University of Minnesota Animal Care Program D16-00288 (A-3456-01)  
NIH Grant Number: 5R01AR073966-02  
UMN IACUC #37487A

Dear Dr. Wolff,

In keeping with the terms of our assurance, please be informed that we are making a report of an adverse event related to an IACUC approved; NIH funded study involving mice. The basis of this report results from a self-reported incident. The report outlined that three mice were found dead four days following weaning. At the time of weaning the mice deviated from a healthy appearance and this was noted on the cage card by lab staff but was not properly reported to veterinary staff via the established health reporting system.

The mice were found dead on 8/12/22 and were small in appearance. It is not known if the mice were able to reach their food and water, or maintain their body temperature, from the date of their original weaning on 8/08/22 to when they were found dead on 8/12/22.

We want to inform you that we consider this matter closed. The PI has confirmed that, going forward, any mice that appear sick or are unusually small at weaning will be immediately reported by writing up a health report card and the mice brought to the attention of the veterinary staff. The PI further confirms that any questions regarding animal health will be brought to the veterinary team. The IACUC will monitor ongoing compliance through annual post approval monitoring.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Frances Lawrenz, Ph.D.  
Interim Vice President for Research  
Institutional Official, University of Minnesota  
101 Pleasant Street, S.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55455

CC: Erin Dickerson, Chair, IACUC  
Lynn Collura Impelluso, Institutional Veterinarian  
AAALAC

**McCoy, Devora (NIH/OD) [E]**

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**From:** [REDACTED] (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 8, 2022 2:14 PM  
**To:** OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)  
**Cc:** accredit@aaalac.org; Erin Dickerson; Lynn Impelluso  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] UMN IACUC #37487A  
**Attachments:** UMN IACUC 37487A.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Dr. Wolff,

Attached please find a report of an adverse event related to an IACUC approved, NIH funded study involving mice.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

[REDACTED] (b) (6)

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