



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Telephone: (301) 496-7163
Home Page: <https://olaw.nih.gov>

September 9, 2026

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3304-01 [OLAW Case 4Z]

Bonnie Nagel, Ph.D.
Chief Research Officer
Oregon Health & Science University
3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road
Portland, OR 97239

Dear Dr. Nagel,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your August 21, 2026, letter reporting an instance of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) following up on an initial July 28, 2026, notification by telephone. It is noted that the animal was not assigned to a research project at the time of the incident.

According to the information provided, this Office understands that the OHSU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) determined that instances of noncompliance occurred with respect to conditions that jeopardized the health/well-being of animals resulting in harm/death to animals. The final report states on July 2, 2026, a juvenile female rhesus macaque was discovered alone in a colony run pen, separated from her social group. The separation was recorded on the daily observation sheet (DOS) and noted that blood was present in the run and consistent with a minor digit wound. It is stated that the clinical technician observed the animal and no signs of pain were observed and requested continued monitoring of the animal. The next day, the same animal was reported for favoring the right hand (albeit slightly) and ultimately it was requested that the animal be assessed for a potential digital fracture. Radiographs revealed multiple digit fractures on both hands, which resulted in multiple amputations of the digits on both hands.

Investigative results revealed that a colony lead did not notice a closed slide or animal separated from the group during the lock check performed around 3pm. Following the lock check, a colony technician shifted the group to an adjacent pen to collect lixit water samples. It is stated that when the group shifted back to the original pen, the slide between the two pens inadvertently remained closed, or was not secured open. As a result of the error, it is presumed that the animal was able to lift the unlocked slide and move between the pens. The report states that it is possible that the unsecured slide fell on the juvenile's hands at some point resulting in injuries.

The matter was reviewed by the IACUC on August 18, 2026, and the following corrective actions were approved by the committee (in summary):

- All staff have been reminded of the requirement to verify and secure all enclosure doors, slides, and access points immediately following any husbandry, sampling, maintenance, or observation activities.

- Colony Leads have reinforced expectations regarding completion of visual and physical lock verification checks following any activity that requires access to animal enclosures.
- Staff conducting procedures or entering animal areas later in the afternoon are required to verify whether the Colony Lead lock check has already been completed.
- Staff have been counseled on the importance of maintaining enclosure security and promptly reporting any concerns or discrepancies identified during daily operations.
- The colony leadership team has reviewed current lock-check procedures to identify opportunities for additional safeguards and accountability measures. Lock check procedure retraining will be implemented.
- Staff have been reminded to immediately escalate any indication of animal separation, abnormal housing conditions, or injury to veterinary and management personnel to ensure timely intervention and treatment.

Based on its assessment of this explanation, OLAW understands that Oregon Health & Science University has implemented appropriate measures to correct and prevent recurrence of these problems and is now compliant with provisions of the PHS Policy.

We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this Office.

Sincerely,

JACQUELYN T.
TUBBS -S

Digitally signed by
JACQUELYN T. TUBBS -S
Date: 2026.09.09 13:50:00
-04'00'

Jacquelyn Tubbs, DVM, DACLAM
Acting Director
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare

cc: IACUC Contact

Louis DiVincenti, Senior Veterinary Medical Officer – Research



August 21, 2026

Dr. Jacquelyn Tubbs
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
Rockledge 1, Suite 360, MSC 7982
6705 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-7982

Office of the Chief Research
Officer

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3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park
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Portland, OR 97239

tel: (b) (6)
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Bonnie Nagel, PhD
Interim Chief Research Officer
Executive Vice President
Institutional Official
email: nagelb@ohsu.edu

Dear Dr. Tubbs:

Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), in accordance with Assurance D16-00195 (A3304-01) and PHS Policy IV.F.3., provides this report of a serious adverse event. This was first reported to OLAW on July 28, 2026, via a telephone call (b) (6). The OLAW case number is A3304-4Z.

On 7/2/26 a juvenile female rhesus macaque was found alone in a colony run pen, separated from her social group housed in an adjacent colony pen. The area tech noted the separation on the daily observation sheet (DOS) and reported that there was blood in the run that was consistent with a minor digit wound. A clinic tech performed observations noting that the juvenile appeared comfortable with no favoring (i.e., no signs of pain) observed and requested continued monitoring of the animals. On 7/3/26, the juvenile was reported to be slightly favoring the right hand and sucking on the digits. A CVT did rounds that morning and requested the animal be evaluated for possible digit fracture.

Upon evaluation, radiographs showed multiple digit fractures on both hands, resulting in multiple amputations of the digits on both hands on 7/3, 7/7, and 7/9.

During the investigation it was reported that a colony lead completed a lock check around 3 pm on 7/1 but did not notice a closed slide or animal separated from the group at that time. Later that afternoon (following the lock check), a colony area tech collected lixit water samples and shifted the group to an adjacent pen for the collection process. When the group was shifted back to the original pen, the slide between the two pens was left closed, or not secured open, in error. The slide was not locked closed or open, which presumably allowed the animals to lift the unlocked slide and the juvenile moved from between the pens. It is possible that the unsecured slide fell on the juvenile's hands at some point resulting in injuries.

The incident was discussed by the West Campus IACUC on August 18, 2026. The IACUC unanimously approved the following mitigation plans:

1. All staff have been reminded of the requirement to verify and secure all enclosure doors, slides, and access points immediately following any husbandry, sampling, maintenance, or observation activities.
2. Colony Leads have reinforced expectations regarding completion of visual and physical lock verification checks following any activity that requires access to animal enclosures.
3. Staff conducting procedures or entering animal areas later in the afternoon are required to verify whether the Colony Lead lock check has already been completed. If the lock check has been conducted, staff must either:
 - a. Defer non-time-sensitive activities until the following day, or
 - b. Notify the Area/Colony Lead before entering the space so that an additional lock check can be arranged upon completion of the activity.
4. Staff have been counseled on the importance of maintaining enclosure security and promptly reporting any concerns or discrepancies identified during daily operations.
5. The colony leadership team has reviewed current lock-check procedures to identify opportunities for additional safeguards and accountability measures. Lock check procedure retraining will be implemented.
6. Staff have been reminded to immediately escalate any indication of animal separation, abnormal housing conditions, or injury to veterinary and management personnel to ensure timely intervention and treatment.

These actions are intended to further strengthen enclosure security practices, improve procedural compliance, enhance communication regarding post-lock-check room access, and reduce the likelihood of future animal separations, injuries, and associated animal welfare concerns.

The animal was not assigned to a research project at the time of the incident. OHSU is committed to protecting the welfare of animals used in research and appreciates the guidance and assistance provided by OLAW in this regard. Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact (b) (6)

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Bonnie Nagel, Ph.D.
Interim Chief Research Officer
Executive Vice President
Institutional Official
Oregon Health & Science University

cc: IACUC Chair
Attending Veterinarian
Director, Animal Care and Use Program

Williams, Angelina (NIH/OD) [E]

From: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2026 2:51 PM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6); Bonnie Nagel; (b) (6) OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Reportable event-OHSU D16-00195 (A3304-01)

Hello,

Thank you for providing this final report for OLAW case **A3304-4Z**. We will send an official response soon.

Disclaimer: 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.

Very respectfully,

Angelina Williams, DVM, MPH, DACLAM, DACVPM, FAC-COR, CPH
Lieutenant Commander (LCDR), US Public Health Service
Animal Welfare Program Specialist
National Institutes of Health
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
Office: (301) 451-1952

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2026 2:37 PM
To: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD) <olawdco@od.nih.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) Bonnie Nagel
<nagelb@ohsu.edu>; (b) (6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reportable event-OHSU D16-00195 (A3304-01)

To all concerned,

Please see the attached report regarding a serious adverse event from Oregon Health & Science University- D16-00195 (A3304-01). This final report is a follow up to OLAW pre-report case number A3304-4Z. Please confirm receipt and let me know if you need any additional information.

Best

(b) (6)

Ware, Teagan (NIH/OD) [E]

From: Ware, Teagan (NIH/OD) [E]
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 10:16 AM
To: (b) (6)
Cc: OLAW Division of Compliance Oversight (NIH/OD)
Subject: RE: Voicemail- pre-report animal welfare concern

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi (b) (6),

Thank you for following up! I did receive your voicemail. This report has been assigned as OLAW case **A3304-4Z**. Please reference this case ID when providing updates or submitting the final report.

***Disclaimer:** 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.*

Best,
Teagan

Teagan Ware, MS, PMP
Animal Welfare Program Analyst
Division of Compliance Oversight
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health
6705 Rockledge Drive (RKL 1), MSC 7983

Phone: 301-435-2390
Email: teagan.ware@nih.gov

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2026 12:02 PM
To: Ware, Teagan (NIH/OD) [E] <teagan.ware@nih.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Voicemail- pre-report animal welfare concern

Good morning Teagan

I just left you a voicemail reporting an animal welfare concern (7/28/2026). I realize you are out of the office, but I was unable to get a voicemail from anyone else in the division (just kept ringing). When you are back in the office can you confirm you received my pre-report voicemail?

Thank you

(b) (6)



Initial Report of Noncompliance

By: TDW

Date: 7/28/26 Time: 12:00PM (VM)

Name of Person reporting: (b) (6)

Telephone #: (b) (6)

Fax #:

Email: _

Name of Institution: _Oregon Health and Science Univ_

Assurance number: _A3304-01_

Did incident involve PHS funded activity? _

Funding component: _

Was funding component contacted (if necessary): _

What happened?

Juvenile rhesus macaque inadvertently separated from it's group due to a slide not being locked that connects the 2 pens. During the evening it is believed that the animal got it's fingers stuck in the slide trying to gain access to its cohoused other macaques resulting in the animal needing to have multiple digits fingers amputated.

Species involved: rhesus macaque

Personnel involved:

Dates and times:

Animal deaths: No

Projected plan and schedule for correction/prevention (if known): _

Currently investigating.

Projected submission to OLAW of final report from Institutional Official:

60-90 days

OFFICE USE ONLY

Case # _ _