



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
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November 4, 2022

Re: Animal Welfare Assurance
A3775-01 [OLAW Case 1R]

Dr. Philip Hinds
Senior Director of Research Compliance
Tufts University School of Medicine
136 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02111

Dear Dr. Hinds,

The Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare (OLAW) acknowledges receipt of your October 26, 2022, letter reporting a series of noncompliance with the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at Tufts University School of Medicine. According to the information provided, OLAW understands that the alleged noncompliance included an unapproved route of injection in mice; failure to provide required analgesia; inadequate supportive care and monitoring and failure to euthanize mice upon reaching the approved humane endpoints. Comparative Medicine Services (CMS) supported these allegations by providing documentation of a previous training outline, photographs of ulcer measurements, and emails between the researchers and CMS personnel. A review of the Principal Investigator's (PI) compliance history also revealed his involvement in minor noncompliance incidents and one serious incident that was reported to OLAW on May 16, 2022. The animal activities in question were not PHS-supported.

The corrective actions consisted of immediately terminating the responsible PI's privilege to serve as PI on the current protocol, as well as permanently revoking the PI's privilege to serve as PI on future IACUC protocols at Tufts University. The PI's animal use privileges have also been suspended for one year, after which the PI may request the IACUC's consideration to lift the suspension. The Senior Director of CMS was approved as the temporary PI for the current study and CMS assumed responsibility for the care, monitoring, and breeding of mice, pending the identification of a new PI. In addition, the current protocol will be terminated if a new PI has not submitted a "Change in PI" form to the IACUC by October 17, 2022 and completed all personnel requirements. Current authorized animal users on the protocol must complete three hands-on trainings with CMS by November 9, 2022, and new users must complete their training prior to obtaining IACUC clearance to work with animals. The IACUC will also provide additional oversight through monthly progress reports and IACUC inspections for the final year that the protocol is active.

Based on the information provided, OLAW is satisfied that appropriate actions have been taken to investigate, correct and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. We appreciate being informed of these matters and find no cause for further action by this Office.

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Sincerely,
**Neera V.
Gopee -S**

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V. Gopee -S
Date: 2022.11.04
08:37:14 -04'00'

Neera V. Gopee, DVM, PhD, DACLAM, DABT
Associate Director, Animal Welfare Policy
Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare
National Institutes of Health

cc: IACUC Chair