



Inspection Report

University of Texas- El Paso
500 W UNIVERSITY AVE
I A C U C OFFICE, ADMIN. 209
EL PASO, TX 79968

Customer ID: **1473**

Certificate: **74-R-0069**

Site: 001

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS- EL
PASO

Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION

Date: 14-NOV-2022

2.31(e)(2)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

In the IACUC-approved protocol A-202009-1, the Principal Investigator requested the use of up to 474 prairie voles in addition to rats and mice. However, the protocol did not provide a rationale for any number of voles. The facility personnel stated that no voles were used on this protocol to date.

Such a rationale for the number of animals requested by the Principal Investigator is necessary for the IACUC to assure there are adequate resources to provide appropriate care and use of the research animals at the facility..

Prior to the use of covered species in this or any other proposed protocol, the PI must provide a rationale for the proposed number of animals.

Correct by: 12/05/2022 or prior to any use of covered animals on this protocol

2.31(e)(3)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

In the IACUC-approved protocol A-202009-1 involving mice, rats and prairie voles, there were thirteen different behavioral tasks enumerated for both laboratory research and class laboratory training. Some of these procedures involved invasive procedures like surgery for implantation of a device ("headstage") for recording and delivery of drugs or for implantation of catheters or pumps to administer various compounds, such as alcohol or cocaine. However, by reading the protocol, it

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21-NOV-2022

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was not possible to determine how many of these procedures would occur in an individual vole or how many procedures including surgery that they would receive. There were descriptions of procedures ("tasks"), such as a water maze test, but the proposed number of voles used on each procedure was not provided.

The protocol was also not clear on what procedures were being proposed versus what the Principal Investigator has already completed. There was extensive use of the past tense in the protocol. For example, the nearly six pages of the description of the water maze tests all used the past tense except for a single paragraph that used future tense to discuss proposed use of rats. In addition to the use of the past tense, the protocol frequently cited results, which would infer that the research was already conducted; however no description of proposed procedures was stated in the protocol. For example, the "Much like the milk preferences, each animal showed different light tolerance, and the brightness of the lights was adjusted so that each animal performed the task with similar choice preferences (avoiding the brighter light in 16.6-33.3% of trials) in at least three consecutive sessions." The protocol stated that the proposed research does not duplicate any previous work. The facility personnel stated that no voles were used on this protocol to date.

Such a complete description of proposed procedures as requested by the Principal Investigator is necessary for the IACUC to assure appropriate care and use of the research animals at the facility,

Prior to the use of covered species in this or any other proposed protocol involving animals covered by the Animal Welfare Act, the PI must provide a complete description of the proposed use of species covered by the Animal Welfare Act.

Correct by: 12/05/2022 or prior to any use of covered animals on this protocol

2.33(b)(5)

Attending veterinarian and adequate veterinary care.

A nearly full bottle of Fatal-Plus euthanasia solution was found in a drawer of an unlocked rolling cabinet in a room housing prairie voles. No facility personnel were present in or immediately near the room. The log book that was present

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did not show any use of the euthanasia agent on the day of inspection. Fatal-Plus contains the barbiturate sodium pentobarbital as its active ingredient and is a scheduled (controlled) by the US Drug Enforcement Agency.

Current established veterinary medical procedures require adequately securing controlled substances to prevent diversion and to insure purity and potency. Diversion and adulteration such as by removal of the Fatal-Plus solution and replacement with other liquids can negatively impact purity and potency. Administration of adulterated, weakened products may result in pain or distress to animals receiving an inadequate dose that is insufficient to cause rapid loss of consciousness.

Corrected at the time of inspection.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with Facility Representatives.

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
1473	74-R-0069	001	UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS- EL PASO	14-NOV-2022

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000044	<i>Microtus ochrogaster</i>	PRAIRIE VOLE
000044	Total	