



## Inspection Report

University of Connecticut

438 Whitney Rd Ext. Unit 1006, Whetten Grad Center  
Storrs, CT 06269

Customer ID: **52**

Certificate: **16-R-0008**

Site: 001

University of Connecticut

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION

Date: 29-MAY-2024

### 2.31(c)(7)

#### Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

Pertaining to IACUC approved Protocol 22-035: The Principal Investigator (PI) implemented a significant change to an ongoing activity without prior review and approval of the IACUC. On 1/30/24 the novel device under study in the research proposal was mounted externally by the PI on the leg of one rabbit instead of mounting it subcutaneously as described in the IACUC approved protocol. The deviation from the approved procedure was identified by the Attending Veterinarian and the animal was evaluated and closely monitored by veterinary staff. No adverse effects were observed in the rabbit.

Per this Section, with respect to activities involving animals, the IACUC shall review and approve, require modifications to secure approval, or withhold approval of proposed significant changes regarding the care and use of animals in ongoing activities prior to implementation by the investigator. Principal investigators are to follow the IACUC approved proposals and any proposed changes shall be reviewed and approved by the IACUC prior to implementation.

In response to this incident, the research facility conducted an investigation and implemented several corrective measures to prevent recurrence to include refresher training for the investigator staff, protocol modification/review, and additional oversight of the laboratory. This item was corrected prior to the inspection and there have not been any additional incidents. To remain corrected from this date 5/29/24 forward.

### 2.38(f)(1)

#### Miscellaneous.

Three rabbits assigned to Protocol #23-048 were not handled as carefully as possible by investigator staff. Investigator staff were performing IACUC approved procedures in another of the Principal Investigator's protocols, #22-054, on 2/16/24; the staff mistakenly identified and used three rabbits from protocol #23-048 in procedures described in Protocol #22-054. Investigator staff self-reported the incident to veterinary staff who evaluated and monitored the rabbits. No adverse effects were observed in the animals.

Per this Section, the handling of animals by all personnel, including investigator research staff, should be done as carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause physical harm, behavioral stress, or unnecessary discomfort. Improperly identifying animals prior to performing a research activity is not handling the animals as carefully as possible. The research facility addressed this incident prior to the inspection by implementing corrective measures that included

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retraining of investigator staff on animal identification and handling practices. To remain corrected from this date 5/29/24 forward.

This inspection and exit briefing were conducted with facility representatives.

\*END OF REPORT\*

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USDA, APHIS, Animal Care

**Title:** VETERINARY MEDICAL  
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**Species Inspected**

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
52	16-R-0008	001	University of Connecticut	29-MAY-2024

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000043	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	DOMESTIC RABBIT / EUROPEAN RABBIT
000043	<b>Total</b>	